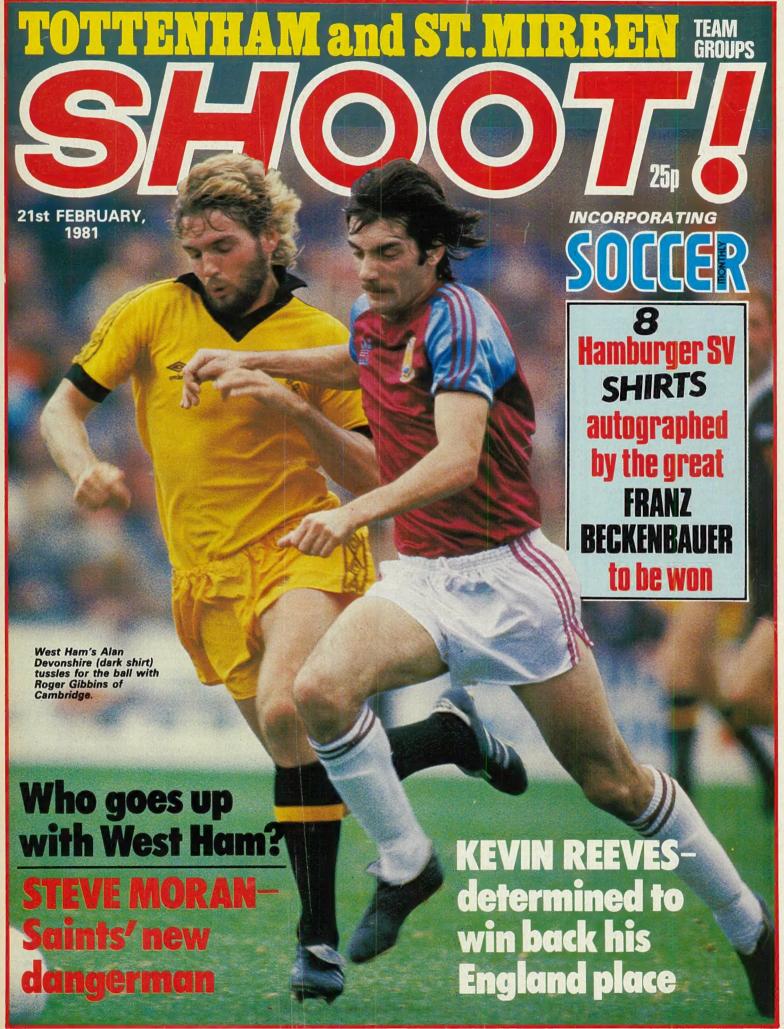
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WHO says football is losing its public appeal? The prophets of gloom and doom suggest the game is dying, yet there is ample evidence that our national game is better value for money than many other entertainments which rely on ticket sales for revenue.

Tickets are already selling well for England's friendly against Spain, at Wembley on March 25. Could the interest have anything to do with the return from injury of Kevin Keegan and Trevor Francis, who add thousands to gates

wherever they perform?
These days the First Division comprises many teams who place a heavy emphasis on crowd-pleasing attack.

Liverpool are always spectacular, but some of the lesser mortals of the Division also now send a shiver of excitement down the spine.

Ipswich Town, currently fielding the best team in manager Bobby Robson's reign, are winning . . . and winning in style.

The languid approach work of **Arnold Muhren and Frans Thijssen** is capitalised upon in deadly fash-ion by Paul Mariner, Eric Gates, and midfield star John Wark.

We are led to believe that football is played for the benefit of soccer coaches, and to hell with entertainment. Ipswich's skilful style shatters that argument.

Flair has become the hallmark of Aston Villa's game this season.

Gary Shaw's youthful flourish at the spearhead of their forward line epitomises the attacking style Ron Saunders has bred in his side.

With Cyrille Regis, Peter Barnes, Gary Owen and Bryan Robson in the team, WBA can do nothing but play spectacular football.

Falter

Their rather poor home attendances hardly reflect the contribution this quartet has made to their progress in the First Division. Should the title-chasers above fal-ter, West Brom could yet emerge as surprise Champions.

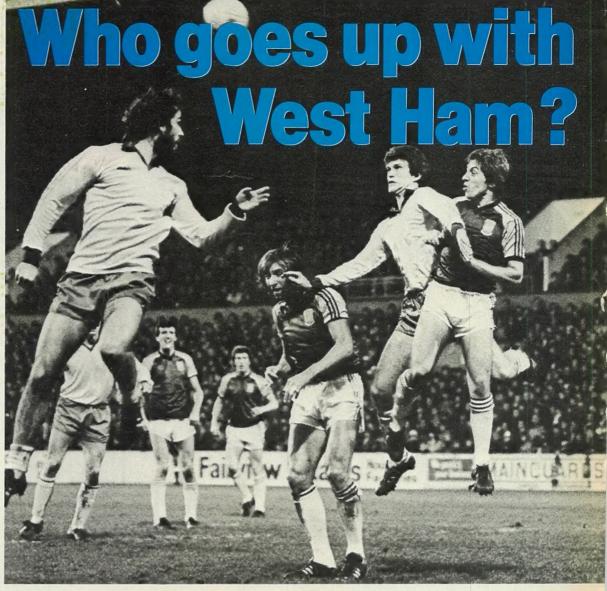
More than 35,000 fans were privileged to see one of the most thrilling Cup-ties in modern mem-ory at Highfield Road, Coventry last month. The League Cup Semi-Final first-leg encounter between Coventry and West Ham was football at its finest, a game that proved conclusively that our national game can still play to a full house.

The game had everything Sensational goals, cliff-hanging suspense, excitement, tension, the unexpected, and a thrilling climax.

Dull, negative tactics are beginning to take a back-seat. Allan Clarke, manager of Leeds United, started his new job at Elland Road by saying: "We are not good enough to play entertaining foot-

He settled for deep defence and accomplished little.

Those of us who live and breathe football want to be entertained win or lose.





'Any two from ten' PAUL FUTCHER

HE most important point about the promotion race this season that anyone could go up within reason.
West Ham are certainties, but

any other side from a bunch of eight or ten teams could go with them. It depends on the clubs who hit a consistent run for the rest of the season. They don't have to win every week — that wouldn't be necessary in a Division where everyone is beating everyone else. Just an unbeaten run, steady and consistent collection of points will

be enough.

Swansea are not ready to go up and I don't fancy them. Derby County are one of my 'possibles'—they thrashed us 4-1 earlier in the season and looked First Division material. But since then, they've been inconsistent. But I think the experienced players they have could tip the scales.

Sheffield Wednesday would be a great bet if they could produce the goods away from home. But although they've got a tremend-ous record at Hillsborough, they struggle away and that rules them

Chelsea are my third choice, because I don't believe they are that far from being a really good side. They had a very poor spell around the Christmas/New Year period, but all sides have bad times. They will recover in time and besides, it's better to get the poor results out of the way early on rather than at Easter. Then, it's too late to do anything about it.

Outsiders? My old club Luton, because they are so strong at home and are capable of good results away.



'Swansea have the experience' NOEL BROTHERSTON Blackburn Rovers

WEST Ham are by far the best team we have seen in the Second Division this season. So I'd agree that they are 'certs' to go up.

But I'm in as much trouble as your other 'experts' in trying to

pick two others.

I go for Swansea and Chelsea, with Derby the other side disputing the remaining two places. Derby would be my 'dark horses' because they have experience and I think they have yet to find their best form. If they've been playing below their best, as I suspect they have, then they should excel once they find their top form.

Picking Swansea and Chelsea doesn't mean they're certainties. I go for Swansea because of the experience they've got. You definitely need that in the Second Division, and with players like Leighton James, Leighton Phillips, David Stewart and Alan Curtis, they've got plenty of that. Chelsea have a reasonable blend

of youth and experience. But both teams must get results after very disappointing spells around the New Year. If they can sort out those problems, they could make an impact and take a decisive step towards promotion. They now seem to be back on the right lines.

But don't rule out the possibility of Q.P.R. or ourselves coming with a late run. There is still time for anyone putting good results together. They could sneak past everyone to grab a promotion place. It's that open in this season's race for the First Division.



this season. Apart from West Ham, there are so many teams bunched in there with a chance.

I think John Toshack has done a tremendous job at Swansea and his side have great chance. I rate them as the best attacking side we have met this season, and that philosophy may see them through.

Chelsea have all-round strengths and seem well organised. Of the others, I don't see Notts County maintaining their position, although I could be wrong. And I don't think Orient will get there because they seem to be vulnerable on the odd occasion, and you can't afford to be that. They have a tremendous squad but it may not be enough.

Blackburn are still in conten-tion, but I don't think they are

ceady to go up just yet.

O.P.R. are a good side but have started their run too late. But Derby are a distinct possibility. They look strong and have hit form at the right time. It's all a question of whether they can keep that momentum going, or whether they will be like the rest . . . good one week, bad the rest.
I'm really not too keen to predict

West Ham (dark shirts, left) seem promotion

Swansea (white shirts, below) and

Chelsea are two

possibilities, but both went through a

bad patch during

January and may

have lost their big chance. Orient's Stan Bowles (right)

has already tasted

life at the top.

certainties, but who goes up with them?



'Chelsea's class should tell' **RON HEALEY Cardiff**

HE remaining two promotion THE remaining two promotion places are anyone's guess. Every other side in contention, apart from West Ham, seems so unpredictable and inconsistent. It's like sticking a pin in a map and picking out two sides blindfold. But if I have to do that I would side I have to do that, I would pick Notts County and Chelsea.

Chelsea aren't very reliable, but the football they played earlier in the season was superb. If you can play like that during a season, you ought to be able to do it most of the time. When Chelsea's bad run ends, I expect them to pick up and take one of the remaining places.

There are several other sides who could do it, like Luton and Sheffield Wednesday, But I'd go for Notts County in the third pro-motion spot because I think they have a good blend of youth and will exclude some sides — perhaps

the likes of Swansea.
I don't think Notts County or Sheffield Wednesday will be there, either. But Chelsea beat us 4-0 at our place and they looked a competent outfit. I know they've struggled recently, but any side goes through a spell at some stage of the season. The important thing is to get out of it before the last two months. That's when it's invariably decided.

They certainly came back to form when they beat Shrewsbury 3-1 recently, and I think they are coming into form again.

Chelsea failed to score in seven League games but they were still in fourth position, so that has to be terrific news for them.

I pick Luton because they are like Liverpool at home envies playing at their place. As long as they are winning regularly at home, the points they pick up away will help their cause even

I can't see any side needing a great number of points to go up. In fact, the remaining two places could go to sides with the lowest points totals ever. Luton are a good team on the day, so they may sneak up with the two London clubs — but don't bet on it. I'm certainly not going to!



Goaldifference could decide it'

> TOM FINNEY Cambridge

'M going to put myself out on a limb and say Orient could do it. Ilimb and say Orient could do it. You need some quality players in your side to even think about the First Division — and Orient have them. Stan Bowles, Peter Taylor, John Chiedozie, Tommy Taylor, Mervyn Day, Bobby Fisher... good players, every one of them. What Orient need, like everyone else, is more consistency. And that's what's lacking in everyone

that's what's lacking in everyone except West Ham which means any two from eight clubs could go

any two from eight clubs could go
up. It's pretty tight now and it will
be even closer at the end. Goaldifference could decide it.
Most of those eight sides are
even in terms of ability. So it really
is a guessing game as to who will
finally make it, with West Ham. I'd
pick Q.P.R. if the season had
started two months later, but now. started two months later, but now I think they have too much to make

up on the others. Derby aren't ready to go up. We took four points off them this season and they didn't look anything like a First Division side. And I wasn't too impressed with Chelsea

— I don't think they will make it,

Luton played some good football against us, so they might do it. Of all the sides involved, I'd say Orient and Luton but it wouldn't surprise me to see neither of them make it in the end. It's so open, its un-believable. We could get close, because we can be a consistent side and there aren't many sides around with that quality.

The fact that nobody takes us as serious contenders can strengthen our chances.

experience. They also have Jimmy Sirrel, a wise manager who will give them the best guidance at the

crucial stages late in the season.

County are one of the steadiest sides in the Second Division, and they've been on the fringes of the promotion places in several recent years. That makes me think they are consistent enough to do it this time, in a season when inconsis-tency has been the rule rather than the exception.

So it's West Ham, Chelsea and Notts County for me.



'Luton but I wouldn't bet on it!' STEVE FOX Wrexham

take Chelsea and Luton to fill the two remaining places. I fancied Swansea strongly until they fell away with defeats by Middles-brough in the F.A. Cup, West Ham, Cambridge and Q.P.R. I'm nowhere

near as sure about them now.

I think the bad weather could play a part in deciding it. Some teams might struggle to find their best form in the conditions, so that



Derby the best outsiders' ALAN GOWLING Bolton

doubt whether the Second Division has ever been as tight, or as hard to predict. You can usually pick out the three best sides without any trouble, but not

which three will make it, apart from the obvious — West Ham. Possibly the top three in mid-January-West Ham, Chelsea and Swansea - will make it. I'd probably go for those three at the moment, with Derby as the best of the outsiders.

But I'm like the rest of my colleagues — very much in the dark. The thing is, it's just as competitive at the bottom as the top. That means any side in this Division can beat any other, no matter what their League positions are.

HE magic of the F.A. Cup owes much to the giant-killing of the smaller clubs over the years. The competition is littered with Davids beating Goliaths. The Fifth Round draw was not kind to the six teams remaining from outside the First Division. Only one non-First Divi-sion side will definitely be in Round Six - either Newcastle or Exeter — but as much as we would like to see a few upsets (like all neutrals) it looks very much like seven of the eight Quarter-Finalists will come from the top Division.

Will the 100th year of the F.A. Cup see a new name on the trophy? Of the 16 survivors Peterborough, Coventry, Wrexham, Middlesbrough and Exeter have never reached the Final.

The match of the round will take place at The Dell and Southampton v Everton means one big name will disappear; there can have been few traces of delight on the faces of Lawrie McMenemy and Gordon Lee when the draw was made.

McMenemy will be the happier,

It's saying a lot for Exeter that few eyebrows were raised when they beat Leicester in a replay in the last round. That was a tremendous night at St. James' Park and now Exeter face the longest trip made by any club in Britain when they play at the other St. James' Park up at Newcastle. Any club that possesses the

country's leading scorer, as Exeter do in Tony Kellow, must have chances and The Magpies have been notorious for losing this type

of game in the past.
One club who haven't had to dip into their pockets for any travelling expenses are Spurs. By one of those astonishing quirks of coincience, Tottenham have been involved in nine Cup-ties already this season and have yet to go outside London. Now they face Coventry at White Hart Lane and their form in recent weeks suggest that Spurs are a good tip to make the short trip to Wembley as well.

Coventry's last two visits to

White Hart Lane have cost them eight goals, five being scored by Glenn Hoddle. With Osvaldo





Frans Thijssen takes on three Shrewsbury defenders during Ipswich's defeat of the Second Division side in the Fourth Round.

FIFTH ROUND DRAW

lpswich v Charlton Middleshrough v Barnsley Newcastle v Exeter Nottm. Forest v Bristol City Peterborough v Mas. City Southampton v Everton Tottenham v Coventry Wolves v Wrexham.

Cup odds: 7-2 Nottm. Forest; 4-1 Ipswich; 6-1 Southampton; 7-1 Tottenham, Man. City; 10-1 Everton, Middlesbrough. 14-1

because of home advantage. This can be a crucial factor at this stage of the tournament, and those Saints fans who believe in omens will be glad to hear Kevin Keegan has yet to finish on the losing side against Everton — unless you count this season's League game at Goodison Park where he limped off injured after a few minutes.

Everton, for their part, are bitterly disappointed not to have had an improvement in their luck after overcoming Arsenal and Liverpool

in earlier rounds.

The most romantic tie will be played at London Road: Peter-borough against Manchester City. It's the sort of tie the Cup is famous for and has all the ingredients of a memorable match

Peterborough, giant-killers par excellence up against Manchester City, form team of the moment, but sacrificial lambs to Shrewsbury and Halifax over the past two

years. So far United have won at Northampton, Barnet, Chesterfield (in a replay) and Notts County, so they may even have groaned at a home draw!

With the goalcoring pair of top scorer Robbie Cooke and Billy Kellock, Peterborough will present a threat to John Bond's rejuvenated City slickers.



Ardiles' future in doubt, he will be extra-keen to cap his career with an appearance at Wembley.

Another extraordinary cidence brings together two managers whose last competitive meeting was in more salubrious sur-Brian Clough and Bobby Houghton were rival managers of Nottingham Forest and Malmo in the 1979 European Cup Final.

'Money'

Houghton says realistically: "We need the money and it would be great to hold them and bring them back to Ashton Gate."

Strangely, in view of his enormous success, Brian Clough has experienced failure in the F.A. Cup. In 21 years of trying as a player with Middlesbrough and Sunderland, and as a manager with Hartlepool, Derby, Brighton and Forest he's never gone beyond the Sixth Round.

Clough must have a good chance of improving that record and Forest will have fond

memories of their last Cup meetings with Bristol City. Last season Forest won 3-0 at the City Ground after a 1-1 draw in Bristol in the League Cup.

There's an increasing conviction in the north-east that perhaps this is the year when Middlesbrough will finally crack it and reach Wembley for the first time. John Neal is not a manager

given to outrageous statements, so when he says that, granted freedom from injury, Boro will reach the Final ... you have to

After demolishing Swansea and taking care of fancied West Brom there's no doubt Boro must be taken seriously, and home advantage against Barnsley will increase their confidence.

Ipswich, too, will be thinking they are in with a wonderful chance of reaching their second Final in four years . . . and at the back of their minds even the Double must come up in their dreams.

Charlton will do well to win at Portman Road, where already this



Coventry 'keeper Les Sealey clears safely from Birmingham's Alan Ainscow (left). Tony Kellow, the hat-trick hero of Exeter's giant-killing act over Leicester, tunes in for the Cup draw with manager Brian Godfrey (above). Peter Eastoe beats Terry McDermott in Everton's victory over Merseyside rivals Liverpool in the last round. Now Everton face a tough trip to Southampton in the Fifth Round.

season Liverool, Aston Villa, Everton and Manchester United (to name just four) have failed.

Charlton's priority is obviously promotion to the Second Division. Their defence has tightened up a lot and Derek Hales, back after suspension, will be keen to increase his already impressive goal-tally.
That leaves Wolves against

Wrexham and a big pay day for the two clubs separated by a shortish stretch of motorway.

Wolverhampton Wanderers could be the dark horses, with Andy Gray fit again and their relegation worries slowly disappear-ing. Wrexham will point out that they've already disposed of last year's F.A. Cup winners West Ham and feel they're capable of doing the same to the 1980 League Cup victors.

our last eight: Ipswich, Forest, Manchester City, Southampton, Spurs, Middlesbrough, Wolves and, surprise surprise, Exeter.





FOURTH

lbrox offer because I thought I might get lost in their system.
"I knew I had a better chance of first team football at St. Johnstone and that's why I decided to go to them. I've never regretted the decision. Everything has worked so well."

The alarm bells will be ringing for Rangers as McCoist gets into

st is kev

ROUND

ST. Johnstone's teenage sensa-tion Ally McCoist will do every-thing in his power on Saturday (February 14) to delay his inevit-able £200,000-plus transfer to

McCoist, an attacker of genuine quality and immense potential, will line-up against Rangers in the Scottish Cup Fourth Round tie at Muirton, and he knows that victory for his side will delay any possible move from Perth.

Arsenal and Liverpool have had the 18 year old striker watched

the 18-year-old striker watched almost constantly this season and it seems likely that St. Johnstone will be forced to allow their hottest

property to move on when their interest in the Cup dies.
However, McCoist will thrust all thoughts of a transfer behind him on Saturday as he rolls into action against the lbrox rearguard.

Ironically, he might have been lining up for Rangers against St.

Johnstone!

He says: "I had the chance to join Rangers before I signed for The Saints. I turned down the

THE DRAW

his stride but Ibrox manager John Greig says: "We'll treat this game in the manner we treated the last Cup game against Airdrie at Broomfield, when we won 5-0." Cup holders Celtic meet little part-time Stirling Albion at Park-head.

Earlier in the season they were only one minute away from a shock League Cup dismissal from Stirling.

The Celts were trailing 2-1 on aggregate before Tommy Burns grabbed a last gasp equaliser to push the game into extra-time, where the Parkhead side scored another four goals, two of them coming from Charlie Nicholas.

Triumph

And Nicholas, who scored Celtic's opening goal in the 2-0 triumph over Berwick Rangers in the previous round, is the man the Stirling defence will have to watch.

Aberdeen are on tricky ground when they face Morton at Cap-

League Cup holders Dundee United stage an intriguing con-frontation with Partick Thistle,

who needed a replay to get past Clyde in the Third Round.
It could turn out to be a hectic afternoon for Scottish international goalkeeper Alan Rough if the United forwards hit the sort of devastating form of which they are so capable at Tannadice.

SHOOT's predictions to win the other ties are Hibs, Cowdenbeath, Motherwell and Kilmarnock.





which started life 55 years ago in season 1925-26, has over the vears witnessed spectacular endings to some famous Cup runs, the continuation of some equally celebrated sequences, as well as the usual quota of shocks and surprises.

It has always been the meeting place for the last 16 teams in the

competition.

The two Southern League sides which caused the biggest upsets in post-War Cup football received their 'come-uppance' in no uncertain manner in Fifth Round ties.

Colchester, who had beaten First Division Huddersfield earlier, crashed 0-5 to eventual runners up, Blackpool, in 1948 and a year later Yeovil, who had previously accounted for mighty Sunderland, were decimated 8-0 at Old Traf-

In the same season's Fifth Round Leicester and Luton played out a high-scoring tie, resulting in a 5-3 win for the Midlanders in a replay following a 5-5 draw.

The first post-War decade saw

the Fifth Round termination of several promising Cup runs by teams from the lower reaches of the Football League.

Disposed

Newport County were unlucky to lose 2-3 at Portsmouth in 1949, having previously disposed of Leeds and Huddersfield.

Three years later, Southend United were drawn at home in all five rounds and reached the last 16, where they went down to Sheffield United at Roots Hall.

Then, in 1953, Halifax took similar advantage of a set of all-home ties to beat Southport, Cardiff and Stoke before succumbing to Spurs before what is still their record attendance, 36,885.

Later in the 50's came those marvellous charges by Third Division clubs into the Semi-Finals. These were achieved by Port Vale, who sensationally beat Cup holders, Blackpool, 2-0 in the 1954

Twelve months later York City

handed out a 3-1 beating to Tottenham at the same stage and Spurs were also the single goal Fifth Round victims of the third Third Division team to reach the Semis in the 1950's - Norwich in 1959

In between these two disasters Spurs were also humiliated 3-1 by Third Division Bournemouth in the 1957 Fifth Round to make it a miserable second half of the decade for The Lillywhites.

Norwich also caused a stir by winning 2-1 at Maine Road in the 1963 Fifth Round, but were on the wrong end of a similar scoreline 13 years later when Fourth Division Bradford City progressed to the Quarter-Finals at their expense.

Leeds crashed to a couple of Fifth Round defeats in the 1970's to teams from a lower Division than themselves. In 1971 Fourth Division Colchester shaded them

CHECK YOUR TEAM'S FIFTH ROUND FORM Tottenham Everton Wolves Newcastle Nottingham Forest Manchester City Middlesbrough Newcastle Ipswich Southampton Charlton Coventry Wrexham Bristol City Barnsley Peterborough Utd. Exeter City

Fifth Round

Sensations

George Best nets one of his six goals in the 8-2 thrashing

of Northampton in 1970.

3-2 at Layer Road and three sea-sons later Bristol City triumphed over the Yorkshire club, then at their peak.

The sensation of the 1968-69 Fifth Round was the 3-0 beating West Ham took at Third Division Mansfield and, 12 months later, one of the biggest scores of the round occurred when six goals from George Best helped Manchester United thrash Northampton 8-2. The previous season United had beaten Birmingham 6-2 in Round Five.

Sunderland's 1973 passage to their eventual F.A. Cup victory was assisted by a 3-1 win over Man-chester City in the Fifth Round after they had forced a draw at Maine Road.

The other two Second Division F.A. Cup winners of the recent past did not achieve such a spectacular last 16 result, but their victories were nevertheless meritorious, Southampton whacking WBA 4-0 in a replay in 1976 after forcing a draw at The Hawthorns and West Ham beating Swansea from the same Division last February.

Two years prior to their golden Cup year Saints had slipped 0-1 at home to Wrexham at this stage, one of a string of notable Cup performances by the Welsh club during the 1970's

during the 1970's.

The 1974-75 Fifth Round came up with a couple of surprises, Second Division Fulham winning 2-1 at Everton on their way to the Final and Third Division Peterborough beating Middlesbrough, who were to finish seventh in the First Divison that season.

Manchester United gained revenge for their 1976 Final defeat by Southampton by winning at Old Trafford in the following season's Fifth Round after coming away from The Dell with a draw, while the shock of last season was the ease with which Second Division Watford won 3-0 against Wolves at Molineux.

Duels

Fourteen Fifth Round ties have gone to three matches, Nottingham Forest and Bolton having three times been involved in these, and six other clubs having played in two three-match duels, two of which occurred in 1959 and two in 1967. The closest of the 14 was Preston's eventual 1-0 victory over Liverpool in 1962, the only goal of the three games.

Two ties in the 1961 Fifth Round of the F.A. Cup attracted a total attendance of over 123,000 to the city of Birmingham. Nearly 70,000 saw Spurs win at Villa Park while more than 53,000 watched the 1-1 draw between Birmingham and

The two visitors to the city that day contested the Wembley Final a few weeks later when Spurs completed the third League and F.A. Cup double in history.

Two other Fifth Round results warrant a mention. One was in season 1930-31 when Exeter City were blazing a Cup trail and, hav-ing disposed of Second Division Bury in the previous round, they went on to knock out First Division Leeds United. At the time the West Country team was a modest Third Division South outfit.

Six years later Millwall, on their way to becoming the first-ever Third Division Semi-Finalists, overcame the team which was to finish fourth in the country in 1937 — Derby County — by 2-1 at The Den.

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And who knows where that will end!
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Post Code

A MAN with an eye for the media that's Halifax Town's new chairman Sam Rorke.

Mr Rorke's priority is to get people interested in Halifax Town.

'We must interest local industry and commerce in the club and I think it is a shame that over the years we have been ignored by local firms.

'The press and media as a whole can

play a considerable part in promoting a

club's image,'' he says. No doubt Mr Rorke is mindful of the fact that Halifax have always been regarded as one of the Cinderella clubs of the league, bent more on survival than success. They have a ground that is widely regarded as one of the least attractive in the League, and crowds have dipped even below a thousand on



IS this the most famous Partick Thistle team photograph of all time? The forward lines is pretty famous to say the least. For it consists of manager Peter Cormack, actor John Grieve of

Cormack, actor sonn Grieve of 'Parahandy' fame, player Jackie Campbell, star boxer Jim Watt and Frank Welsh, Partick's midfield stalward. The occasion was a testimonial dinner to honour Jackie Campbell, who has played for Partick Thistle for 17 years.

JIM Melrose, whose winning goal ended Liverpool's three year unbeaten home record covering 86

unbeaten home record covering 86 games, was wondering whether he would ever score a goal in the First Division earlier this season.

The pressure was eased when he scored twice for Leicester in only 11 minutes in a surprising 2-1 victory over Birmingham City — and then came that momentous moment at Anfield.

Squash maniac

NOBODY can ever accuse Stoke's experienced defender Mike Doyle of being anything but super-fit. Yet he sometimes misses a training session with his Stoke team-mates.

And he does it with manager Alan Durban's blessing because he knows that Mike will be hard at it — playing

The former Manchester City and England man is a bit of a fanatic for the game and he will go hard at it on the squash court for an hour and that keeps

Naturally he turns up for training when tactical moves are being worked out and practised, though after some 15 years and more than 500 League games as a professional he has mastered the

basic arts of his craft.
Playing in the North West League, around the Manchester area, he has up to four games a week but there no easy ones for him; players always go flat out against him.

'As soon as they know it's Mike Doyle they are up against it is like a Cup Final for them," he says.

for them," he says.

Mike reckons he has a couple of seasons in top soccer left in him before turning to coaching. But he'll keep playing squash to keep his reflexes laser



'Red cards were good." insists Clive Thomas

T seems that just about everyone is happy that referees no longer use the red and yellow cards . . . except the refs. Managers and players claim the cards have been responsible for the in cautions increase sendings-off.

Britain's top official, Clive Thomas, is one of many referees

who disagrees.
"If the cards have been the cause of more bookings then it's the fault of the referees for the way they've been used," he said. "I liked the system. I felt it helped the crowd to know exactly what was going on. Any-

thing that improves communica-

tions must be good.
"We won't know the full effect
for a while until some new statistics are available. If at the end of the season there has been a drop in bookings since January then referees will have to take a long look at themselves.

Thomas, once known as Clive The Book, but now probably the most respected whistler in Britain, goes on: "I won't accept that referees have been hiding behind the cards. That seems the inference. Personally I was sorry to see them go. I think we have made a mistake here."

'Goalies neglected'

OALKEEPERS are the odd men out when it comes to training and coaching, claims former Millwall and

Coventry number one Bryan King (right). Injury forced King to quit the game six Norwegian Third Division side Tynset. But during the close season recently he spent several weeks at Ipswich helping Paul Cooper and the other 'keepers at Portman

"There aren't many clubs who can afford to take on a coach specifically for the goalkeepers," says King, "But I believe goalkeepers are being neglected the way things are at the moment. "I'm convinced the standard of

goalkeeping has dropped since I was playing. Then there was a glut of good 'keepers but now there are only a few.'

keepers but now there are only a few."
King's idea is for ex-goalkeepers to form task forces up and down the country and make themselves available for hire. "They could spend a couple of weeks at clubs passing on useful tips," he says.
"I can remember from my own playing days being pushed to one side during training while the other lads were put through their paces. It doesn't make sense to leave the 'keeper out in the cold when you consider his value to the team."

FOOTNOTE — King is one of several Englishmen working in Norway. Former Liverpool full-back Chris Lawler, ex-Spurs striker Martin Chivers and ex-Arsenal winger George Armstrong are all

winger George Armstrong are all player-coaches.

MONTROSE **GESTURE**

MONTROSE are to launch an investiga-tion into facilities for the disabled at all Scottish League grounds with a view to publishing a "Disabled Guide to Footpublishing a ball Stadia".

pall Stadia .

Commercial manager Jim Webster said: "Many disabled supporters wish to travel to away games, but first they must find out what facilities are avail-

must find out what facilities are available to them.

"We hope to eradicate the problem by asking every club to supply us with a list of the 'pros and cons' for handicapped fags at their particular ground. We will then make our brochure available to those interested."



CUSACK'S A POT-HUNTER

DAVID CUSACK, 24 year-old Southend defender, makes no excuses for pot hunting this season. He is fed up that his sideboard at home is bare.

The only honour he won in football is Yorkshire County Cup medal, a feat chieved when he played for Sheffield Wednesday.

Wednesday.

This season David has his sights set on winning the Fourth Division Championship with Southend.

"We can do it. We have a good team and are playing with a lot of confidence," he says.

Cusack, who cost Southend £60,000

from Wednesday in September, 1978, was a schoolboy player with Sheffield United and ent on trial with Nottingham Forest. But he turned down Forest to sign for Wednesday, making his League debut at 19.



COADY SO VERSATILE

IT took Carlisle weeks of hard work to persuade Mike Coady to sign for them in the summer, but it has all turned out

in the summer, but it has all turned out to be worthwhile.

The Third Division club are delighted with the former Sunderland defender who has helped them get over a series of injury problems by playing in a variety of positions.

By halfway through the season, Coady had worn five different shirts before settling in at left-back recently.

"It's not my favourite position

"It's not my favourite position because I'm naturally right footed," said Coady, "but I don't mind helping

out.
"If it's a choice between left-back or left out, I know where I want to be."

LIVERPOOL PRINTS **COMPETITION RESULT**

IN our December 20th issue we asked

IN our December 20th issue we asked you to answer three questions about Liverpool's success last season. The correct answers were: 1 — 21 Goals; 2 — Phil Neal; 3 — 81 Goals.

The senders of the two neatest correct entries, with age taken into account, were Anthony Stanger, of Abingdon, and Helen Jones, of Marlow.

Both receive a print of Robert Harvey's painting commemorating Liverpool's Championship victory last season. The prints are signed by the Liverpool team and the artist and are framed.

Lan voling



EICESTER hot shot Alan Young (above) is back on the goal stream, but he owes that to a verbal 'kick in the pants' from City boss Jock

Young admits that he became complacent when Leicester first started back in the First Division and that dressing down by the manager put him straight.

"I went away after that," he said, "and thought long and hard about my game." Result of that self analysis has been that Alan's game has perked up considerably, but he has not been scoring as many goals as he would like.

He explained that life in the First Division was harder for a striker. "Teams are better organised and goals are a lot harder to come by."

But that realisation will not stop him fighting tooth and nail to score more and try and keep Leicester among the top set.

IPSWICH midfield man John Wark, in sensational scoring form this season, is a product of top Scottish nursery side Drumchapel Amateurs. Others who started their careers with the famous Glasgow youth side include Nottingham Forest winger John Robertson, Everton midfield man Asa Hartford and Birmingham City's Archie Gemmill. All of them, of course, have something else in common—they've all been capped by Scotland. IPSWICH midfield man John Wark,

FOR the first time ever Wembley intend to issue the League Cup Final

Programme for sale in advance.

Up until now only the F.A. Cup Final programme has been available to supporters in advance, but as this has proved so popular they are now issuing both the League Cup Final and the England v. Scotland programmes in advance for the benefit of those unable

advance for the benefit of those unable to get to the match.
Copies can be obtained by sending 80p (price inclusive of packing and first class post) to:— League Cup Final Programme Dept, Wembley Stadium, Wembley, Middx. HA9 0DW.
"If orders reach us later than March 9th we cannot guarantee delivery before the match, nor can we if there are several replays required," says Wembley's Commercial Manager.
"People who order through this scheme will also get the chance of

scheme will also get the chance of obtaining the F.A. Cup Final and England v. Scotland programmes."

Bolton's bomb scare

A shock for Bolton Wanderers first

A snock for Botton Wanderers first team squad before their recent Second Division game at Grimsby.

Terrorist squad detectives were called to their hotel, the Crest Motel, at lunchtime before the match. They'd been summoned by the hotel management after a suspicious briefcase was discovered on the floor of the dining room where the team were just about to start their pre-match meal. The players were ushered into the car park while the Police decided they had no option but to blow-up the case.

After the smoke had cleared the contents were revealed . . . a Daily Express and a bag of sandwiches!

Smith's a bargain

BOURNEMOUTH's improved form has a lot to do with midfield man Brian Smith.

Brian Smith.

Smith was snapped-up by Bournemouth boss Dave Webb on a free transfer from Blackpool.

Blackpool wanted £50,000 for him less than two years ago.

Boss Webb says: "Brian gets it together for us in the middle. He's been a great capture for us."

Smith was in the Bolton promotion squad a couple of seasons ago.

tion squad a couple of seasons ago.

Fiver — at last

MIDDLESBROUGH full-back lan Bailey received an extra cash bonus with his matchwinning goal in the F.A. Cup Fourth Round with West Brom. Bailey revealed after the second goal

of his career that the bonus was not written into his contract — "My brother, written into his contract — "My brother, Graham, offered me a fiver a long time ago whenever I scored a goal. It is about time I collected."

The defender was helped with a rare lapse by Tony Godden. The Albion goalkeeper allowed a 25 yard shot to go through his hands.

Godden owned up to his mistake: "I took my eye off the ball", but manager Ron Atkinson offered no criticism.

Atkinson was sporting in defeat.

"Godden made three magnificent saves last week, and will probably do the same next week."

the same next week."

The goalkeeper saved a late penalty by Middlesbrough forward David Armstrong to keep his side in with a chance of a replay in a nail-biting finish. Yet he will be more remembered for his slip than his save — that's the price a goalkeeper has to pay.

Linfield's 0-1 home Irish League defeat by Cliftonville was the first time the Belfast Blues failed to score in 28 domestic games since the start of the 1980-81 term.



Prizes will be awarded to the senders of the eight correct entries judged to be the neatest with age taken into account. The competition is open to readers in the U.K. and Eire except employees of IPC Magazines Ltd. and the printers of SHOOT. The closing date is Monday, March 2nd.

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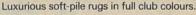
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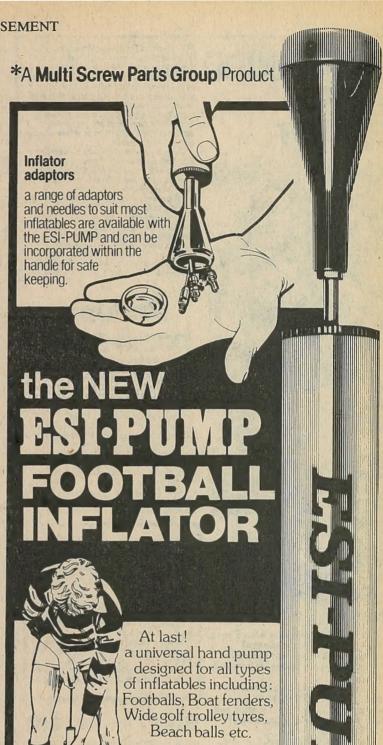
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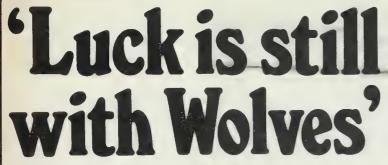
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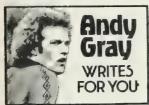
WHEN Wolves won the League Cup last season I wrote that all along I had a hunch our name was on the Cup. It's difficult to explain exactly why . . . it was just that we had just about every break we could have and even when we beat Forest in the Final the goal was handed to me on a plate.

There are remarkable similarities between last year's League Cup and the current F.A. Cup campaign. I'm not saying we're going to win at Wembley again — simply that the pattern seems to be followed so far.

In 1979/80, we were almost knocked out of the League Cup on four or five occasions, yet we escaped. This year, we could have gone out at the first time of asking at Stoke. A shot by Kenny Hibbitt was deflected by Norman Bell and we won the replay.

We hammered Watford at Vicarage Road. At the end of the day we had to thank Paul Bradshaw for pulling off a tremendous save in the final moments to keep our

hopes alive.



At Molineux we needed a penalty — it was a penalty, I was impeded — and a deflected goal, again, this time by Derek Parkin via George Berry. Watford had some great chances, but didn't take them.

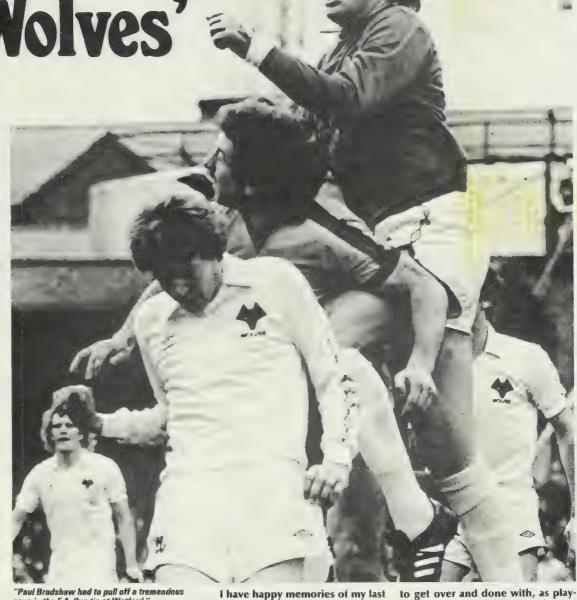
Any team that wins a Cup needs Lady Luck on its side and so far Wolves have had her as a regular! Even the draw for the Fifth Round was kind.

We're underestimating Wrexham. On the other hand, after two away ties it's nice to be at Molineux. Poor old Everton — Arsenal, Liverpool and now Southampton. The draw could certainly have been worse for us. Having said that, we've got to go out and do the job now.

I have a high regard for what Arfon Griffiths is doing at Wrexham. It's a well-run club with a nice stadium. He may have problems in attracting players initially. Once they've seen the set-up, though, they must be impressed.

It's looking as if the Quarter-Finals will be dominated by First Division clubs. The smaller outfits didn't come out of the draw too well and I feel sorry for them.

Like Watford, Wrexham have a good Cup tradition and have two or



save in the F.A. Cup tie at Watford.

three notable scalps to their credit in recent years. I think the reason such teams do well is that they have enough quality players and experience to raise their game for a oneoff Cup-tie.

Happy

Considering Watford already beaten Southampton and Forest this season - not by the odd goal either — they weren't an easy draw, and neither will Wrexham be. I'm happy that it's at Molineux and we can look forward to another 30,000 gate.

Our assistant manager Richie Barker went to see their replay with West Ham and was very impressed by Dixie McNeil. Richie told us that even playing as an emergency leftback, the evergreen McNeil still looked the player most likely to score - which, of course, he did.

Cup-tie against Wrexham. It was when Aston Villa won the League Cup and we beat them 5-1 in an early round, with yours truly scoring one. A repeat performance this Saturday would be very welcome!

The Cup still takes second place to First Division safety, which must be our priority. We've turned the corner and I don't think there is much danger that we'll go down. Until it's mathematically safer, we must treat the Cup as a bonus.

The problem is that the Cup has the glamour and it's easy to be committed to that competition rather than the League. John Barnwell now has around 16 or 17 players to choose from and he's been watching individual performances very closely to gauge players' form.

I'm simply delighted to be playing again after a long lay-off and hope to continue my Scotland career the week after next when we play Israel in a World Cup qualifier.

This is the sort of tie we'll be glad

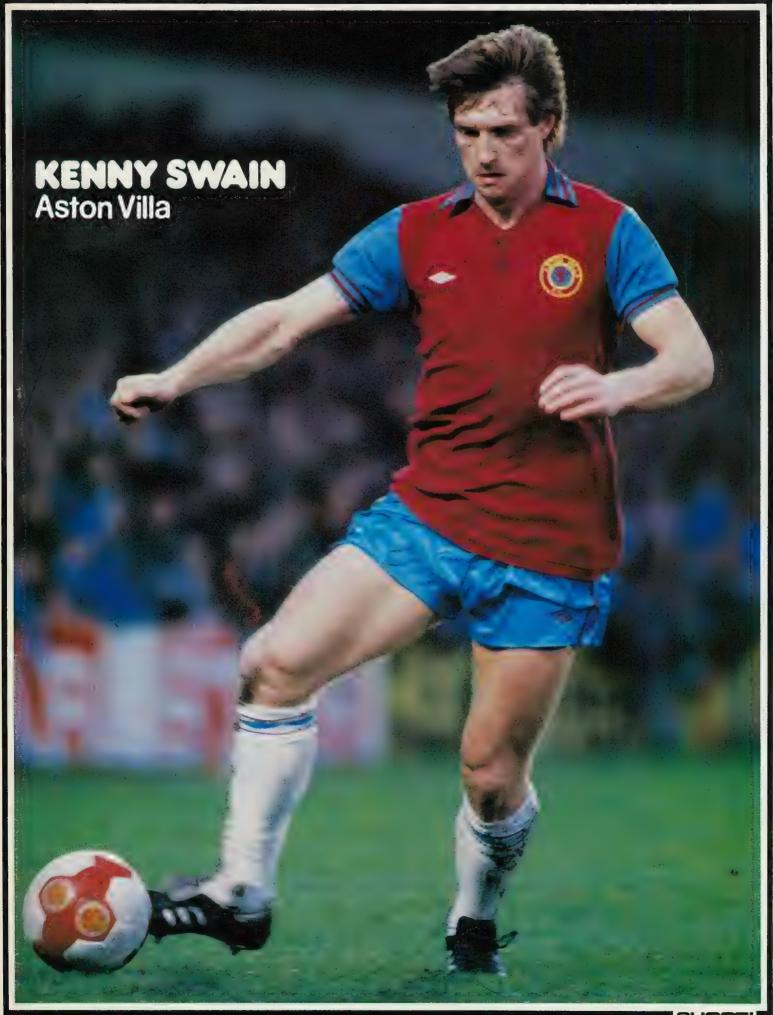
ing in Tel Aviv is a stiff test for any team. The Israelis will be eager to put one over on players whom they see regularly on TV and read about in magazines and newspapers.

Two points from the game would set us up nicely for the remaining ties. At the final count, goaldifference could be the decider as to who qualifies for Spain, so goals against Israel will be all important.

Like Wrexham, it won't be easy. I hope Lady Luck stays with us!







SHOOT!



PAUL Mariner was included in Ron Greenwood's first England squad, but didn't even gain a place on the bench for the 1977 friendly against Switzerland at Wembley in which neither side managed to

But within a few weeks Paul lined up alongside Trevor Francis for a World Cup qualifying tie in Luxembourg and netted England's second goal in a 2-0 victory.

second goal in a 2-0 victory.

It was seven months later, however, before he pulled on an England shirt again. Caps four and five were gained in the British Championship fixtures against Wales and Scotland within a fortnight of helping Ipswich to a firstever F.A. Cup success.

The nearest he came to scoring in a memorable Final against Arsenal was when he scooped a shot on to the bar with Pat Jennings beaten. But he had more than paid his way in the earlier rounds with a double at Cardiff and then a hat-trick in the 6-1 Quarter-Final demolition of Millwall.

because I believe in the club. Ips-wich are going to be in the fore-front for the next few years if I've

got anything to do with it.
"I want to be a winner and I haven't just signed this new deal because it means a bob or two.
Sure, it's given me fabulous security for later in life but the fact that I'm with a club who will always be

Paul's chasing the top honours is more important." magic moment

He says: "That F.A. Cup win was the best thing to happen to me in football and it also helped put the club on the map in a big way. Our League form that season was poor but there always was a feeling we would win the Cup."

That Wembley triumph was the start of a hectic period for the one-time engineer from Bolton. After

Inat Wembley triumph was the start of a hectic period for the one-time engineer from Bolton. After helping England clinch the British Championship he was packing his bags to join the 'B' squad led by his club boss Bobby Robson that toured New Zealand, Malaysia and Singapore.

After a brief break away from it all Paul was back at Portman Road for pre-season training. And it was as the 1978-79 campaign kicked off that rumours began to circulate concerning Paul's future. Was he about to drop a transfer bombshell at Ipswich? Football's gossip writers seemed convinced.

But before long Paul killed the speculation by signing a new six-year contract at pswich. He said at that time: "I'm committing myself for the best years of my career



A Company of the Comp

Paul heads home for England in a World Cup qualifying game against Switzerland at Wembley last November.

final part

Ipswich didn't win any of the trophies they pursued that season, eventually finishing sixth in the First Division with the consolation of qualifying yet again for the U.E.F.A. Cup. And only a killer goal by Liverpool's Kenny Dalglish rob-bed them of an F.A. Cup Semi-Final

season but a remarkable recovery season but a remarkable recovery saw them lose just one of their final 24 League games and finish third to clinch a U.E.F.A. Cup place. Paul's goals were a vital factor and he also played himself back into the international spotlight.

He played for the England 'B' side against Spain at Roker Park,

when his Ipswich team-mate Russell Osman scored the only goal, and then regained his place in the senior squad after an absence of two years for the 1980 British Championship.

After his performance in Eng-land's 2-0 win at Hampden Park, in

which he laid on the first goal for Trevor Brooking, Paul flew to Australia for what was tagged a full international but featured players on the fringe. In front of 30,000 fans in Sydney he grabbed the winner in England's 2-1 win. When the England party assem-

bonus. At one point I had almost given up hope of playing professionally, never mind for my country. When I won my first cap I received a telegram from a group of former work-mates from the factory in Bolton where I served my engineering apprenticeship. That made me realise how fortu-

That made me realise how fortunate I've been."

Paul, who hit a hat-trick in his side's shock 6-0 defeat of Manchester United last season, is quick to acknowledge the part Ipswich have played in his progress. "They've given me football at the very highest level," he says, "and this has obviously helped me to project myself."

this has obviously helped me to project myself.
"That's why I am delighted to stay at Portman Road. At the start of the season there were a few rumours flying about that I wanted to move but there wasn't any truth in them. In fact I signed a new contract which will keep me at loswich for another year on top of lpswich for another year on top of the five remaining from my old

agreement.

-then out

While Paul was the club's top goalscorer, however, he did not add to his international honours. And a form lapse at the beginning of the 1979-80 campaign meant he was very much out in the cold as

ras very much out in the cold as far as England was concerned.

Paul's problem was short and simple — he wasn't scoring goals as often as he would have liked. His confidence slowly disappeared, he became despondent and was almost dreading every

and was almost dreading every game that came along.

He recalls: "I was really worried because nothing seemed to be going right for me. I was making a hash of chances that I knew I should have tucked away and I used to go home and try to think where I was going wrong.

"When things had been going my way I kept telling myself that sooner or later the bubble would burst, that it was all too good to be true. But when I hit a lean spell it still got me down.

'Incidents'

"I went home in a rotten mood and used to kick myself when I looked back on incidents when I should have scored. The boss was drumming it in to me that I needed to concentrate on even the sim-plest chance and I could see what

Paul points to Ipswich first team coach Bobby Ferguson, who was upgraded from the reserves in 1979, as the man who helped put him back on the road to the top. "He told me to stop worrying and start enjoying my game again," says Paul, "and that made me real-ise my basic problem.

ise my basic problem.
"I regained my appetite for the game, I was going out looking forward to playing and felt relaxed. Bobby used to stay behind with me after training and we spent many hours working on the important aspects of my game, espe-

cially my finishing.
"Now I have a completely different outlook. I still get concerned if I don't score goals but I don't get worried. Believe me, there's a big difference.

Ipswich sank to the bottom of the table during the first half of last



Ipswich team-mate Alan Brazil (above). The 1978 F.A. Cup Final, and Paul shoots past Arsenal's Pat Jennings only to see his effort hit the

bled before flying out to Italy for the final stages of the European Championship, Paul was there again to round off a season that started like a nightmare but which ended in a blaze of glory.

"Italy was the icing on the cake," says Paul. "Every time I scored for Ipswich I looked upon it as another step on the road to Italy. At one point I never thought I would be making the trip, but then we started to climb the table and we began to receive a lot of publicity began to receive a lot of publicity and I realised there was still a

chance.
"Unfortunately, we didn't make
the impact in Italy that so many
people expected. I was used as a substitute against both Italy and Spain and I felt I did quite well. It would have been nice to have been

would have been nice to have been in the side from the start but I was a fairly late addition to the squad and Mr Greenwood must have had a team in his mind by then."

Now established in the England number nine shirt, Paul is the first to admit there are several players breathing down his neck. "But I'm the man in possession." he says, "And it's up to me whether I can hold my place. hold my place.

"I managed to score in both the World Cup qualifying ties against Norway and Switzerland and I missed the trip to Rumania through injury. So up till now I'm pleased with my form and the boss seems happy too.

Every game for England is a

'Good side'

"We're on the verge of some-thing big this season, not only at home but also in Europe. It takes a good side to stay in the hunt for the title and also reach the last eight of a big competition like the U.E.F.A. Cup. "Life couldn't be better right

the couldn't be better right now. I've built up a terrific understanding with Alan Brazil and Eric Gates, my co-strikers at Ipswich. It took time once we decided to change our system and operate without a winger, but now it's working a treat.

working a treat.

"I know it might sound bigheaded but I really believe we have the best squad of players in the country. Paul Cooper, our goal-keeper, takes a fair bit of stick because he's never won any international honours like the rest of us, but he can't be far away.

"When I moved from Plymouth more than four years ago I was

when I moved from Plymouth more than four years ago I was convinced I had chosen the right club in Ipswich. What has happened to me in that time proves I made the right choice. And to think I once threw my boots away because I thought I was wasting my time trying to make the grade!"



ON THE BALL

ACROSS:

(3) Bristol City are known

as The ----s (5)

(1) --- Evan-, Stoke full-back. (4)

(6) Mel —, Wolverhampton Wanderers striker. (4)

(11) Join together, as in many club names. (5)

(13) John Mc-----, Not-tingham Execut contain

tingham Forest captain.

(6) (14) U.E.F.A. Cup winners, 1972. (5)

(15) Steve —, striker. (5) , Norwich City

(4) Trevor —, Everton midfield player. (4)

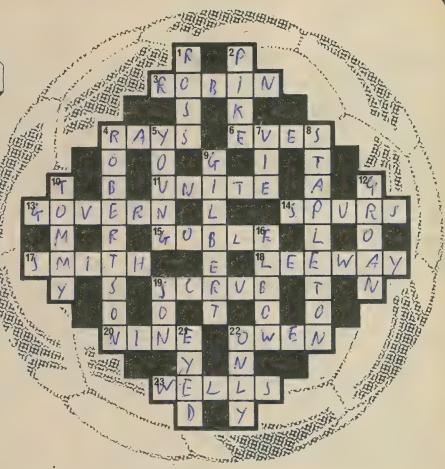
-2 Geoff —, West Ham midfield player. (4)

-(4) John —, Nottingham Forest winger. (9)

(5) Alan —, Leicester City striker. (5)

(7) Contend or compete for superiority. (3)
(8) Frank —, Arsenal striker. (9)

striker. (9)
(9) Billy —, Crystal Palace defender. (7)
(10) — Hutchison, of Manchester City. (5)
(12) Sound expressing pain, grief or disapproval. (5)
(16) Joint of the arm. (5)
(19) David John---, Liverpool and England striker. (3)
(21) Looked at. (4)
(22) T--y Hate-e-, former Liverpool and Chelsea striker.



ANSWERS ON PAGE 40

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'FINNWHO?'

N previous columns I have talked at length about goalscorers I have admired in world soccer such as Denis Law, Bobby Charlton, Jimmy Greaves, George Best, Pele and Johan Cruyff.

They are all instantly recognisable name players who have made their mark on the big-time scene, men who have left us all with a million treasured memories.

But I wonder how many of you have heard of a player called Finn Dossing? He was one of my first soccer heroes and, honestly, his finishing was nothing short of devastating.

devastating.

As a kid I used to support my local club Dundee United and I went along to Tannadice as often as possible to watch the Scandinavian shooting star. I used to dream of possibly lining up alongside Finn in the United attack some day. That didn't work out, of course, but it was a nice thought at the time.

Finn was part of the Scandinavian boom that hit Scottish soccer in the







early 60's. I remember Dundee United also had Swedish international outside-left Orjan Persson and another player called Lennart Wing.

Wing.
Erik Sorensen, now the assistant manager at St Mirren, was the first import when he joined Morton and the rest just seemed to flood in. His namesake Jorn Sorensen, no relation, and Kai Johansen followed shortly afterwards and, like Pers-

Kai Johansen, Ranger's Scandinavian hero of the 1966 Scottish Cup Final. son, went on to play for Rangers.

These players brought a splash of colour to Scottish football but, like I said earlier, my big hero was Finn Dossing. I can still remember vividly some of the astonishing goals he used to score for my boyhood idols.

I recall a Scottish Cup game where United scored five superb goals . . . and still lost! Hearts beat United 6-5 that afternoon and if we had more games like that there would be no complaints from today's soccer fans.

Effort

And there was no complaints from yours truly either last month when I managed to score two goals against Airdrie in the Scottish Cuptie at Broomfield.

Before that game I had scored only one goal all season — an effort

against Forfar in the League Cup at Ibrox — so it was a huge relief to stick a couple past John Martin.

I hope to repeat the feat on Saturday when we face St Johnstone at Muirton in the next round of the Cup. This is going to be an exceptionally difficult game, but if we show anything like the form that demoralised Airdrie we have got to make the next round.



TARTAN TALK FROM CELTIC'S DANNY McGRAIN NEXT WEEK











THE team that everyone seems to be ignoring in terms of promotion could be the very side to throw the Second Division into confusion as it clambers its way up the table wrecking the hopes of

Sheffield Wednesday, promoted only last season from the Third Division, have all the odds stacked Division, have all the odds stacked against them according to the experts. The reasons for excluding them as candidates for one of the promotion places this season seem endless and valid.

"The side is too young, too inexperienced — next year they could be ready," is what many people say."

people say.

"It will be too difficult for them
to overcome the backlog of
games," others point out remem-bering postponed matches with



Cardiff, Cambridge and Preston. There is a mass of knowing folk who will tell you to look at Wednesday's disappointing away form in the first half of the season and say "You can forget them this

year."

It's all true of course BUT what many overlook is that the game is not about opinions or of past form, it is about players' attitudes on the

day. In Sheffield the ace up manager Jack Charlton's sleeve is that his team is packed with players, many of them sons of miners, who are hell bent on showing what they can do today instead of tomorrow'

It's a young team, a quiet team,

It's a young team, a quiet team, but spurred on by the likes of Terry Curran. Andy McCulloch, Ray Blackhall and Jeff Johnson they are playing like tigers.

Dave Grant, probably the most dominating left-back outside of the First Division, is a typical example of the rising young stars in Sheffield. After his debut match, when Wednesday were knocked out of the F.A. Cup by Wigan, in December, 1977, manager Jack Charlton said: "We've lost a match but found a player!" Now, his resolution in defence and surging runs upfield, often finished off with a blistering left foot shot, seems certain to make him one of the country's better known defenders in the years to come.

Wednesday striker Andy McCulloch is foiled by West Ham 'keeper Phil Parkes. Wednesday manager Jack Charlton. #

He agrees that Wednesday can make it this season. "I've grown up with many of the other young players who've got into the side and I think they'll be difficult to shift out of their positions. We are all battling to win each game, to hold on to our good home record and to start picking up in our away games.

Remember we've played a lot of the top teams away from home and now they've got to come to our place. I rated West Ham, for instance, but I thought we were

unlucky to lose 2-1.
"But, you know, we've loved being in the Second Division. It's been great, good experience — and we know we are as good as anyone in the Division. If we don't go up we will at least know we've held our own."







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CRAGGS: Hello Mick! there won't be any League derby matches between us this season we've already beaten Sunderland, and would have liked the chance to

show our paces against Newcastle.

MARTIN: I'm sorry too, John. At
the moment, we aren't playing well, as we are in a transitional period, but hope to meet Middlesbrough in the future when we finish our team re-building . . . and get promotion.

CRAGGS: It will take time. Newcastle's big problem in recent years has been the succession of managers at St James' Park. After Joe Harvey, there was Gordon Lee, Richard Dinnis, Bill McGarry, and now Arthur Cox, and among all the managerial comings and goings, players were being bought and sold. So looking ahead, it could be three years before Mr Cox is able to put together a team of his own

MARTIN: True enough. During Bill McGarry's spell here, he was left to pick up the pieces following the situation earlier when directors, players and manager had confrontations. Then in getting things sorted out, Mr McGarry had to sell eight or nine players, including Tommy Craig, Alan Gowling, Mickey Burns and Alan Kennedy,

and to replace men of their ability is a difficult task.

CRAGGS: On top of all that, Newcastle haven't had the best of luck concerning injuries. You were out of action for months last seature of the concerning injuries and the concerning injuries. son which badly affected United's promotion chances, John Brownlie



'We hope to follow your example'

> MICK MARTIN Newcastle

has missed half of this term with knee trouble, and Terry Hibbitt was the latest casualty in January these are set-backs you've had to adjust to.

MARTIN: Yes, but there are bright spots, with youngsters like Chris Waddle and Bruce Halliday shaping up well for us. And mention of young players reminds me that Middlesbrough are well

served in this respect.

CRAGGS: 'Boro have certainly had great service this season from Craig Johnston, Mark Proctor and David Hodgson. And the team as a whole has put paid to the reputa-tion we had for playing boring, defensive football — if anything, we've gone too far the other way this term, and through attacking so much are often giving away goals too easily at the back. MARTIN: Well, it is a fact that for

years, teams have gone to Middlesbrough with expectations of playing in games which would finish as 0-0 draws, or perhaps with only one goal being scored. But from what I've seen of Middlesbrough this season, they have done their share of attacking, and of course you were always a full-

back who enjoyed going forward.
CRAGGS: I still like to push over
the half-way line, though these
days my opportunities are more limited, as we've Terry Cochrane up front on the right wing. And our manager, John Neal, has got 'Boro serving up entertaining football of the sort that gave us a 5-0 win at Swansea, and must have con-vinced "Match of the Day" viewers that there is nothing negative about our style of play. MARTIN: I'm forced to admit that

Middlesbrough's results this sea-son and their position in the First Division stamps them as the best team in the North-East. But isn't there a chance that the present Boro side could be split up at the

end of this term?

CRAGGS: There has been speculation about what will happen when the contracts of Craig John-ston and Bosco Jankovic are up, and obviously it would be a blow if we lost both these players. But it wouldn't be the end of the world we played without either of them at Swansea and did well, and Bosco was out for eight weeks when we were turning in some brilliant per-

MARTIN: suppose Middlesbrough have accomplished this season is the successful blending of players who have been introduced into the side over a period, something Newcastle

crackets of the control of the contr realised later in this decade. I think we are a little closer to achieving our aims than Newcastle, because our manager has had more time to

put his plans into motion.

MARTIN: Time is certainly the important factor, but Newcastle are making a big effort to recover lost ground. Our new centre-forward, Mick Harford, impresses me as a blaver who has a bright career. player who has a bright career ahead of him at Gallowgate. And John Trewick, another newcomer, is a midfielder who has slipped easily into the side.

CRAGGS: That's good news for the fans, and I know that the best way that 'Boro can please their supporters is for us to pick up away points more regularly. Our home record is good, and if we can gain better results on other grounds, we can still manage a place in the top

six and Europe.

MARTIN: For Newcastle, I know
we won't set the League alight
between now and May. But if we
can develop into a workmanlike outfit this season, and have the confidence that we'll be equipped in all departments for next term, I'll be satisfied — and here's wishing you and your team all the best over the next few months, John.

CRAGGS: Thank you, Mick — the

same to you. I'm looking forward to a renewal of our derbies.



Austin in top gear

STRIKER Terry Austin, Hudders-field Town's record £125,000 Christmas buy from Mansfield, couldn't be happier with his move to Leeds Road "I don't think I've anything to prove," says the man with natural flair for scoring goals. "My record speaks for itself." Yet with Steve Kindon and lan Robins about, Austin is the first to admit that he faces the stiffest

admit that he faces the stiffest challenge of his goalscoring

career.
"It's a matter of picking two from three," he says, "and a situation where you've got competi-

Austin, 26, couldn't have wished for a better start, and soon shot into top gear with two second-half goals on his Boxing Day debut against former club Walsall. "It was satisfying," he says. "I linked up with lan Robins that day.

Then in the next match we trounced Hull 5-0 and I was on the scoresheet again. For that game I partnered Steve Kindon

But personal aims and ambitions don't count for anything at Huddersfield. The club comes first and we all feel the same. Every-thing is concentrated on the drive for promotion.

"From my experience of the Third Division I think we are a very

outfit(s) size(s)

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strong team. We're run on the right lines and we must fancy our chances.

"It's up to ourselves. The lads have put themselves into a position where we've got the oppor-tunity and possibility of going up. If we can maintain good form between now and the end of the season, then we're going to be there or thereabouts I'm pretty sure of it.

'Favourites'

"Looking at the League tables it appears that Charlton and Barnsley have stolen a lead over everybody else. So they must be the favourites.

"I've played against Barnsley twice this season and I must admit they have impressed me. But you never know. They may run into a bad spell and that will prise open the gap for the likes of Burnley and Portsmouth."

Austin, who has seen service at Crystal Palace, Ipswich, Plymouth,

Terry Austin, hoping to help Third Division Huddersfield to



Walsall, Mansfield and now Huddersfield, was attracted to Leeds Road by the club's terrific potential and ambitious promotion outlook. "They're a big club," he says, "one that's steeped in history and tradition, and regardless of which Division they happen to be in, they still draw the big crowds. It's a First Division outfit that has temporarily fallen on hard times.

"Manager Mick Buxton is very ambitious and he's determined to do well for the club. Obviously he's a good football man and he proved

a good rootball man and he proved last season that he can be successful. I think he'll continue in the same vein and he impressed me. "I was sad to leave Mansfield because I had a happy 18 months at Field Mill. I scored a few goals and got on well with the crowd." But the fact is I'm excited at

and got on well with the crowd.

"But the fact is I'm excited at joining a team that's fighting for promotion to the Second Division. I know Mansfield are in with a very good chance of achieving a higher standard of football next season and I wish them every success in their promotion bid.

"However, there's only one club for me now, and that has got to be Huddersfield Town."

"The prospect of playing in the

"The prospect of playing in the Second Division was something I could not afford to turn down at this stage in my career."



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HE simple explanation for Liverpool's failure to reach the Fifth Round of the F.A. Cup is that Everton scored more goals than us in our tie at Goodison Park. But I owe it to SHOOT readers to

go into more detail about a result that sent half Merseyside into mourning and wrecked our hopes of making a second appearance at Wembley this season.

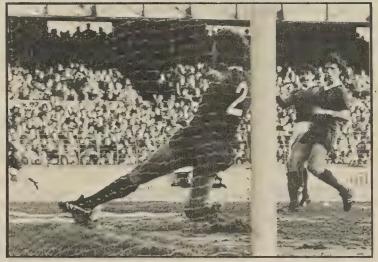
There was no question of Everton having a large slice of Cup luck, they were simply the better side on

the day.

The Blues realised their only chance of beating us was to chase every ball, run non-stop from first whistle to last, and to tackle like tigers.

For the first half-hour at least the game was played at a murderous pace. It was too much to expect an exhibition of classical football, full of style and grace, from two teams in a soccer hot bed with a tradition of fierce rivalry.

In the 16th minute the ball first went into our net, not from a Peter



'Avi Cohen tried to deflect Phil Neal's clearance

they are comfortably placed in the League table and, without any other distractions, can conse-quently concentrate on this competition.

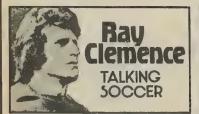
lpswich Town, our main rivals for the Championship, look certain to beat Third Division promotion con-tenders Charlton Athletic at Portman Road.

Before Evertonians start com-plaining, sticking pins in my effigy, I think their team has an outside chance of reaching Wembley should they hold Southampton to a draw at The Dell.

Meanwhile, we at Liverpool must wipe out memories of our bad day at Goodison, followed by agony at Anfield the following Saturday, when Leicester inflicted on us our first home defeat in 86 matches, to concentrate on our domestic priority: beating Birmingham at Anfield to gather two points towards a total that will bring us the Championship

for the third season in succession.

Birmingham, a team that promised so much before Christmas are



Eastoe shot as he has claimed, but from a rebound off our left-back, Avi Cohen, when Phil Neal attemp-

Avi told me at half-time he tried to

That own-goal gave Everton a boost like an electric charge from a lightning flash, and for the rest of the first-half they put us under such tremendous pressure we couldn't get into our usual rhythm.

We had only one chance of scoring, when Kenny Dalglish attempted to shoot past their 'keeper, Martin Hodge, only to see the ball strike the inside of his leg and go wide.

Unfortunately, Kenny received a cut requiring three stitches which prevented him from taking any more part in the game after halftime.

It was during the break the boss, Bob Paisley, took us to task for allowing Everton's tactic of "harry and chase" to work and urged us to settle down.

But try as we might The Blues continued to have most of the ball, and an uneven, bumpy pitch didn't help our cause either.

Their second goal was a complete surprise — a bolt from the blue!

A harmless-looking ball came through which Phil Thompson would normally have had no trouble in coping with. However, he lost his balance, miskicked, and allowed Eamonn O'Keefe to seize possession and home in on our goal.

I made my usual move of coming off my line, spreading myself and

ted to clear.

deflect the ball wide of the post, but it came at him too fast to react properly.

> forcing him wide. I give him full marks for keeping cool at a moment when many overexcited players wo snatched at a wild shot. would

He crossed to the far post for Imre Varadi to arrow in on our blind

The ball should have been cleared to safety, but at the "inquest" afterwards our players on the spot confessed they thought it was going for a goal-kick.

Repeating

Although we'd been in the situation of being two goals down on our previous visit to Goodison, in October in the League, and had pegged them back to get a draw, I couldn't see us repeating the performance simply because we were

formance simply because we were not playing to the same standard. When Jimmy Case scored a con-solation goal it was the result of only our third shot on target in 90 minutes, a shocking average for a club of Liverpool's calibre.

Back in the dressing-room we had to hold our hands up and admit Everton fully deserved their victory. As longest-serving member of the Liverpool first team, it was only the second time in ten years I'd been on

No one was more pleased than Mick Lyons, their captain, who celebrated his first win after 20 games against us.

I wish Everton the best of luck and they'll need it!

Once again, they've a tough draw, following Arsenal and Liverpool. They face another First Division club, Southampton, in the Fifth Round, and this time away from Goodison Park.

Along with Ipswich Town, Southampton are really in-form; and at The Dell, where the confined pitch demands certain adjustments to playing style, are difficult to beat.

I notice some newspapers played on the fact that Kevin Keegan, as a Liverpool player, never suffered the feeling of defeat against Everton in 13 Merseyside meetings. No mention was made that Southampton lost at Goodison in the League this season by 2-1.

But then, Kevin was pulled off partway through due to recurrence

of his groin injury.

The odds are on Southampton winning through to the Sixth Round. Like two of the other teams I fancy as possible Finalists — Manchester City and Nottingham Forest

faced with the prospect of merely playing out the season, having lost any chance of winning a trophy or

any chance of winning a trophy or even qualifying for Europe.
Since we beat them in the League Cup Quarter-Finals, they seem to have gone downhill.

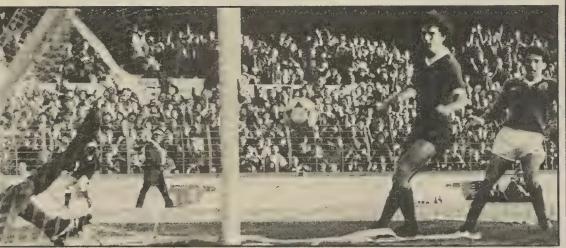
The same fate could befall us unless we shake off our recent

lethargy and regain our traditional fire and spirit.

From now on Liverpool expect 100 per cent from everyone to avoid finishing the term as the team who could have won everything and instead won nothing!

Tune into my column next week when I'll be going into depth about what's gone wrong this season at Anfield — and how we plan to recapture lost form.

Lay Chemorio



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All letters must be exclusive to SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Brian Maitland of Vancouver, Canada, who wins a special SHOOT T-shirt. He

IT'S A FAMILY **AFFAIR**

Being from North America I'm a bit detached from the hooliganism of Britain, yet I have witnessed on my visits the archaic behaviour of British

fans.
I feel when you treat fans as animals

I feel when you treat fans as animals by herding them like cattle into the terraces, they will react accordingly. Clubs should be spending their money on ground improvements (i.e. seated stadiums, undersoil heating).

Clubs in North America offer family packages to matches and take a bigger involvement in the community. Players often help troubled youngsters through soccer training open to the public and by going out into the community to keep in touch with the people paying their salaries. their salaries

Here in Vancouver, the family atmos-Here in Vancouver, the family atmosphere reduces tension even when we play our neighbours Seattle. Also, alcohol is not readily available on trains, pubs, etc. It is available in special areas in the ground, but I have never seen any incidents as people seem to look out that friends don't get drunk as to cause embarrassment to the club.

Clubs in North America are run by entrepreneurs while clubs in Britain tend to be run by extremely old (I've yet to see 70-year-old owners here) men who rest on their laurels and are so out of touch with the man on the street.

of touch with the man on the street

When you have no away fans travelling hooliganism will never be a big
problem and America is lucky in this
respect. Soccer is presented as a family
game in the NASL, but the game attracts
a different type of fan here. Sadly, too
many of the wrong type give the majority a bad name. There really isn't an
answer and you can't compare the US answer and you can't compare the US and Britain

Seb Coe -- or Glenn Hoddle?

I ALWAYS shudder in disbelief whenever I read some nasty comments about Glenn Hoddle, like the Star Letter

about Glenn Hoddle, like the Star Letter in your 17th January issue.

My reply is simple; if football needs runners rather than skilled men, I think Sebastian Coe should be called up to captain the England team for the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

Remove Hoddle and Ardiles from Spurs and see if the high scoring Crooks and Archibald would be able to score ten goals in 20 games.

No player is complete in the world. As good as both Kevin Keegan and Paul Mariner are, they never score in every game. Even wonder boys Diego Maradona and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge have their flaws.

Peter Shilton and Ray Clemence are

Peter Shilton and Ray Clemence are world-class 'keepers, but they sometimes let in cheap goals.

Glenn Hoddle is a midfield man and yet he scored 22 goals last season, made other goals and this season has scored 12 goals and made many others. scored 12 goals and made many others.
Who is the other midfield man in the

country that has scored more goals or made better goals apart from John Wark of Ipswich who, to me, is a

The fact is McDermott may be good, but Hoddle is a better player in whatever matters most from a midfield man . . . free-kicks, accurate passes, ball control, goal scoring as well as penalty kicks:

I only pity Hoddle because the more he is left out to sit on the club's bench he will lack confidence in his ability, just like what is happening to Clive Allen at Crystal Palace.

Crystal ralace.
Please, enough is enough on Hoddle.
He is a footballer and not a runner.
YEMMI PEARCE,

LONDON

• What Hoddle (below) does for Spurs means nothing for England. There are a lot of good club players who haven't made it at international level. At the moment we still don't know whether Glenn is England class.

Pen-Pal

l am 18 years old and my favourite team in England is Nottingham Forest. I would like to correspond with anyone between 15 and 20 years old who is a keen Forest supporter.

WOLF KOCH, SIEMENSSTRASSE 10, 6712 BOBENHEIM-ROXHEIM 1, WEST GERMANY

Take a break

SURELY the fact that 20 Scottish because of bad weather, proves the point that there should be a winter break in British football.

I believe that more people would watch football if the weather was fine instead of the usual British bad winter weather.

It would also give players a chance to play in hot conditions similar to those in countries hosting World Cup Finals and various other tournaments.



If the F.A. won't have a winter break then the least they can do is make undersoil heating obligatory for First Division clubs, the S.F.A. likewise with the Premier League teams.

BARRIE McEWAN, WEST LOTHIAN.

 The problem is that the weather is as unpredictable as football. It hasn't been a particularly harsh winter — yet! — and had there been a six-week break it would have been during mostly playable weather.

Mal under fire

YOU stated in a reply (Goal-Lines 17th January) that Malcolm Allison is a top coach — you're no relation to him are you? Or are you president of his fan

When he left Manchester City the first time he said: "I've taught them all I know, I can go no further." He had another bash last season —

result chaos — yet John Bond sorted it all out in a month.

So what does that make Bond — a super coach I'd say.

DAVID REDDEN, LEIGH.

 There's a difference between being good coach and a good manager. Alli-son's success has been as a coach, although he may feel that after being a manager to be 'just' a coach again would be a backward step. We'll see.

Ref sees red

THERE has been a lot of talk recently about throwing out the red and yellow card system. I am a Class 3 referee and

can't see what the slightest bit of difference this is going to make.

If a referee is going to caution a player for an offence he will caution him whether he has a card in his pocket or

not.
This season I have cautioned at least six and sent-off three players, and have not used the card.

I am very quick to caution anyone who commits a serious offence, especially bad fouls.

As I have said a card is not going to

affect the game in my view.

The only thing I would stop the system for is that it is an embarrassment to the player concerned, as when the card is held up in the air 30,000-odd people cheer.

MARTIN GEE, SUTTON.

 When managers such as John Neal (Boro) and John Bond (Man. City) criticise the ref for correctly sending-off their players for fighting — David Hodgson and Nicky Reid, witnessed by T.V. viewers — I wonder if reverting to the black book will make any difference.

Fans forgotten

BY approving the motion to abolish the use of yellow and red cards, the Football League officials are forgetting the main reason why the cards were intro-duced in the first place — to let the spectators know whether a certain player had been booked or not.

The popular theory that the cards have led to more bookings and sendings-off is untrue, since if a player commits a bookable offence he will be booked whether the referee has to show a yellow card, do a handstand on the pitch or simply write the offender's name in his notebook.

Once again a decision has been made without paying any attention to the only people it affects — the paying spectators.

K. A. RICHARDSON, HYDE HEATH.

 What annoys me is that fans don't always know who's been booked — and some referees refuse to clarify the situa-tion after a game. Supporters have a right to know who's been booked. Maybe the best idea would be to have yellow notebooks which the ref could 'show' after cautioning the player!

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Fighting Matthews

A friend claims Sir Stanley Matthews' father was a Rugby player, but I reckon he was a boxer. Who's right?

MICHAEL TSANG, HONG KONG.

You are, Michael, a boxer he was Jack Matthews — who was known in the ring as "The Fighting Barber of Hanley" — was also a physical-fitness fanatic, and Sir Stan has paid warm tribute to his father's early influence on his own fitness which enabled him to play his last First Division game at the ripe old age of 50.

First 11

Did Spurs really win all their first 11 League games in their famous 1960-61 League and F.A. Cup "Double" season?

JITENDRA PATEL. TANZANIA

● Quite true. Jitendra — and, what's more, it's a record start to a season by any Football League club. Spurs victims — who presented them with those 22 points out of the first 22 — were Everton (2-0). Blackpool (3-1). Manchester Utd. (4-1). Bolton (3-1) and Aston Villa (6-2) at home. Away. Spurs beat Blackpool (3-1). Blackburn (4-1). Bolton (2-1). Arsenal (3-2). Leicester (2-1) and Wolves (4-0). Their winning ways were finally halted when Manchester City drew 1-1 at White Hart Lane on 10th October But the first away check didn't come until they lost 1-2 at Sheffield Wednesday on 12th Novembes.

Youngest

Who was the youngest player ever to score a goal in the Football League?

IAN COLE, SUTTON COLDFIELD

He was Ronnie Dix, lan, who scored for Bristol Rovers v Norwich in a Third Division (South) game on 3rd March,

He was 15 years and 180 days old at

the time.

Dix, who later played for Blackburn and Villa, went on to play for England just before the War.

SHORT PASSES

 Newcastle's record attendance is 68,386 for a First Division game against Chelsea on 3rd September, 1930 Present ground capacity is just

(ANDREW BUCKWELL, Newcastle)

Scorers in the 1978 World Cup Final were Kempes (two) and Ber-toni for Argentina; Nanninga for

(HUW THOMAS, Cardiff)

England's first international at Wembley was a 1-1 draw with Scot-land on 12th April, 1924. (JOHN DOCHERTY, Wishaw)



Cock-a-doodle-doo! Spurs go marching on.

THE lethal Crooks-Archibald strike combination has hogged most of the headlines this season as the famous cockerel perks-up and ruffles bedraggled feathers.

The lean and lethal spearhead

The lean and lethal spearhead drive some defences to despair with foraging runs and exceptional prowess in front of goal

prowess in front of goal.

They take much of the credit for Tottenham's growing hopes of winning a place in European competition next season and a passage into the last 16 of the F.A. Cup.

Favourites

The Spurs fans adore heroes, always have done. Blanchflower and Mackay, Greaves and Gilzean, Chivers and England are six million dollar favourites of modern times. Now comes the supercharged Crooks and Archibald partnership.

The more discerning folk watching action beneath the stadium's famous cockerel point to an overall improvement in team-work and significant contributions from a whole host of players, new and old, including that of John Lacy.

The Spurs centre-half, as much as anyone, has helped hoist Tottenham into a powerful position in the First Division with every chance of qualifying for a trip across the English Channel on a pot-hunting mission next season.

Yet less than 12 months ago Lacy's career lay seemingly in

Steve Archibald beats Manchester City 'keeper Joe Corrigan at White Hart He wore the number five shirt throughout the 1979-80 season, but only on four occasions was it Tottenham's gleaming white first team shirt.

From September onwards he played before paltry crowds at reserve games, while Paul Miller, big, ambitious and talented, launched his League career in the derby game against Arsenal and placed a stranglehold on Lacy's position in the centre of Spurs' defence.

Now, Lacy has regained his first team place and Miller has laid claim to another position in a defence which has tightened-up immeasurably.

Typically, the modest Lacy claims little credit for Tottenham's improved performances on last season when they finished in 14th place.

"The difference is we're scoring goals," he says emphatically. Crooks and Archibald have transformed this club.

"The lads played well last season but always had difficulty scoring goals. Now that problem has been remedied."

Steve Archibald's improvement has been dramatic since his arrival from Aberdeen last summer. He was sluggish in his early games, struggling to match the frenzied pace of the English First Division.

He managed a goal against Crystal Palace in August, and two in September, both against Orient in the League Cup, but it was not until October that Spurs' marauding double act started to operate effectively.

Their burgeoning relationship coincided with Tottenham's improvement in League and Cup.

Honours

First Division Champions: 1950-51, 1960-61. Runners-up 1921-22, 1951-52, 1956-57, 1962-63.

Second Division Champions: 1919-20, 1949-50. Runners-up 1908-09, 1932-33. F.A. Cup Winners: 1901 (as non League Club), 1921, 1961, 1962, 1967. League Cup Winners: 1971, 1973.

European Cup Winners' Cup Winners: 1963.

UEFA Cup Winners: 1972. Runners-up 1974.

Last season's record: First Division 14th. F.A. Cup 6th Round. League Cup 2nd Round.

John Lacy powers a header at the Coventry goal. The two sides meet again in the F.A. Cup this Saturday.

"One of Steve's problems was that he was still trying to move home from Scotland at the start of the season," explains Lacy. "It hampered his progress. Now, he's become one of the best finishers I've seen."

Lacy is excited about other departments of the team.

Barry Daines has shrugged off the ghost of Pat Jennings; Chris Hughton, the Republic of Ireland full-back, is "vastly improved"; Tony Galvin, who recently returned to the side after a pelvic injury, Garry Brooke and Graham Roberts are youngsters of "exceptional merit".

"Brooke is the best striker of a ball in the First Division," Lacy reveals. "We hardly missed Ossie (Ardiles) because of Garry's performances when the Argentinian went on Gold Cup duty."

Lacy reserves most praise for Steve Perryman, Tottenham's captain and midfield inspiration.

Bonus'

"He's 28 and getting better. He compares with the best professionals I've met. He is so versatile. It's a bonus for us."

Ever a realist, John Lacy says that manager Keith Burkinshaw is still not entirely satisfied with his side

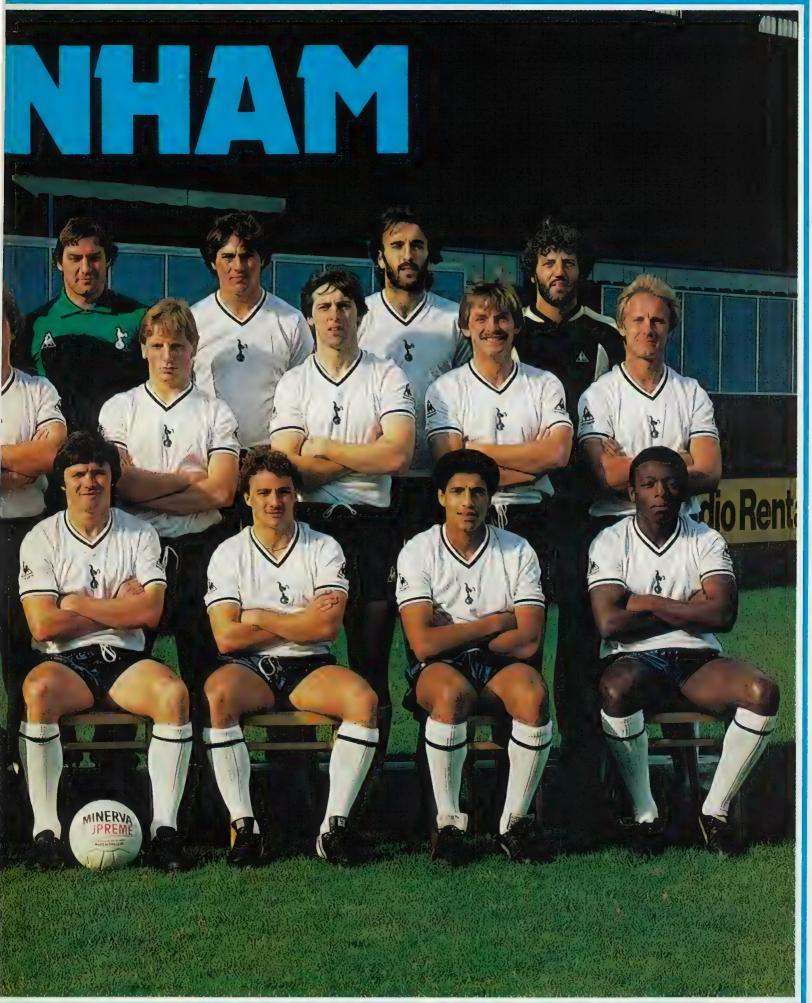
"We haven't quite the right balance yet, but it's coming. We must learn to shut-up shop if we gain a 2-0 lead. We're still a bit suicidal, trying for more goals and getting punished at the back."

The most powerful argument in Tottenham's revival is that Glenn Hoddle and Osvaldo Ardiles, so often holding centre-stage in the past two years, are now simply well oiled cogs in a smoothly efficient team.

No wonder the old cockerel is crowing again.







SHOOT

Cunningham 'Must try to improve'

Real Madrid's Yugoslav manager Vujadin Boskov had a heart-to-heart with Laurie Cunningham when the ex-West Brom winger reported back for training after his one-month suspension.

one-month suspension.
"Basically," says Boskov, "I tried to stress to him that he's a young player with excellent skills — and that he's got to produce these skills in every match.

"I told him he can't continue to live such comfortable life at a club like Real Madrid, where the team is expected to win titles every season. He must work hard, fight, and always try to improve. His future is in his own hands, but he can reach the



RELUCTANT

GREEK international Mike Galakos amazingly asked to be pulled out of Greece's team to meet Luxembourg in a World Cup qualifier . . . because the match was being played in Salonika!

The 30-year-old Olympiakos star was reluctant to appear in the city, because he needed a police escort to escape from the PAOK stadium on his previous visit.

ous visit.

ous visit.

According to Galakos, the reason for his unpopularity in Salonika is that "I might have played a bit rough in a recent PAOK-Olympiakos game . . ."

The result was that they had to pay £500 damage for the car, £350 fine and a £100 fine by the club.

BRAZIL UNDER FIRE-L THE COOC

THE defeat by Uruguay in the Copo de Oro Final has been badly received by the Brazilian who consider Uruguayan team far too weak by international standards.

The general opinion is that the Brazilian players, after beating West Germany 4-1, were too full of themselves and didn't approach the last game in the right frame of mine.

But coach Tele Santana seems unperturbed by the defeat. He thinks the team had a good tournament and has announced the only players he is calling for the approaching World Cup qualifying games against Bolivia and Venezuela are Zico and Reinaldo, who missed the Copa de Oro through injuries.

That means neither goalkeeper Leao nor midfielder Falcao will be in the team, in spite of heavy pressure by the media to call them. Leão plays for Gremio of Porto Alegre and Falcao for

Roma, in Italy.
Falcao won't be called because Roma cannot release him in time to adapt to the altitude of La Paz (more than 12,000 feet). As for Leão, whom Tele keeps saying is still the best Brazilian goakeeper, the coach this time didn't offer

any explanation.

Another disappointment for the Brazilian Press in the Gold Cup was the level of refereeing on the part of European officials who are always being singled out as examples to be followed by South American referees.

But both the Spaniard

Guruceta and the Austrian Linmayer were considered too lenient with rough play, espe-



cially the first, who had a thoroughly disappointing performance when Uruguay and Italy.

They didn't seem to pay much attention to their watches, either, for they gave very little injury time. The final game was stopped for seven minutes in the second-half and Linmayer gave only one minute 22 seconds

injury time.
While much of the British Press has been harshy critical of England's refusal to participate in the Gold Cup in Uruguay, it's interesting to see that in many other

countries, the feeling is that England took the right decision by staying at home.

An editorial in Madrid sports daily AS, for example, begins: "Hats off to England for having the sense to stay at home and avoid being kicked to pieces by Uruguayans and Italians under

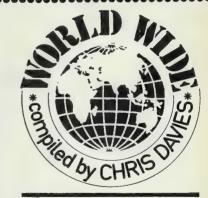
Uruguayans and Italians under the gaze of inept referees. "What had England to gain? Absolutely nothing. And if they'd been beaten they'd have suf-fered, like the West Germans, a repeat, hats off to England. They were right."

THE Italian League restarted after its winter break with five of the eight matches ending as draws, and Roma staying top despite having won only six of their games.

Interestingly, Bologna would be second if they hadn't been penalised five points for their role in the murky saga of the bribes. Instead of chasing the title, they're 12th and still in danger of relegation despite only two defeats.



 A long time after the event, perhaps but FIFA's Official Report of the 1978 World Cup is now available at 75 Swiss francs from FIFA, Hitzigweg 11, 8032 Zurich, Switzerland. It comprises 314 pages, including many colour plates, with the text in English, French, Spanish and German



SPANISH club Hércules had an incredible journey back to Alicante after their League match against Sporting in Gijón. It took them 68

Freak snowstorns had hit Spain, and the team found themselves marooned in trains for three consecutive nights with neither light,

heating or food.

Fortunately, some of the players had bought cakes, seafood and other specialities of the northern region to take home, and manager Koldo Aguirre had acquired a box of crabs, which prevented them from feeling the pinch!

The expedition arrived in Alicante at 7.30 on Wednesday evening, and Aguirre marched the players straight to the Rico Pérez stadium for a practice match because they'd missed two days' training!

LIKE THE ARMY

CONTROVERSIAL manager Juan Carlos Lorenzo (right) has resigned as boss of Atlante after less than six months with the Mexican club.

The decision was taken after Atlante had been beaten 0-3 at home by Deportivo Neza, and Lorenzo, as he packed his bags to return to his native Buenos Aires, remarked: "It's impossible to work remarked: "It's impossible to work here. It's like an army with too many generals and no soldiers. Everybody likes to dish out the orders, but nobody likes to get on with carrying



Deceptive Keegan

IN Brazil, Wales were selected as the Surprise of the Year for 1980 because of their lead in Group Three of the World Cup qualifications; West Germany were selected as the top international team and Sweden the biggest disappointment in view of the poor form shown by the only country who, with Brazil and Italy, have managed to qualify for the last three World Cup Finals. The Hottest Head title went to Rincon, a 23-year-old forward of Real Madrid who was sent off after only 43 seconds of play for punching Botubot of Valencia.

The biggest deception went to Kevin Keegan, who has not yet justified the huge investment Southampton made in bringing him back from Hamburg.

RIVER PLATE's £2,200,000 offer for Diego Maradona has been hitting all the headlines in South America.

The deal was sparked off by the comments I reported a couple of weeks ago, when Argentinos Juniors president Prospero Consoli stated that the club simply couldn't afford to keep the 20-year-old superstar on their backs. their books.

At a lunch meeting, River Plate president Rafael Aragon made the offer that has shaken Argentine football to the core, as the figures being shuffled were nearly eight times the previous record transfer fee

hetween Argentine clubs!
River also offered Argentinos to take away two from a list of five players — and apart from Comelles, De Los Santos, González and Landáburu, the list included none other than Argentina's World Cup striker Leopoldo Lugue!



ONE of five tower cranes at work on increasing the capacity of Barcelona's Nou Camp stadium to 110,000 by adding a fourth level of terracing. The 1982 World Cup will kick-off in the Catalan capital in mid-June next year.



News flashes

• Almeria's president Alfonso Garcia described his team as "11 sisters straight from the convent" after they'd lost their Spanish League match against Zaragosa. Seemingly bound for the Second Division, Almeria have certainly got into the losing habit.

 In Argentina, San Lorenzo's 29-year-old star Hugo Pena is reported to have been electrocuted while trying to repair the wiring at his house.

Brazil's football supremo Giulite Coutinho is to ask FIFA permission to include a coffee motif on the national team's shirts, "to promote a symbol usu-ally associated with the country."

Hungary's wayward star Andras Torocsik has once again been suspended from the national team. This time the talented striker's sin was to be involved in a road accident while driving under the influence of drink. His previous suspen-sion was for being persistently over-weight.

 Brazil's reserve goalkeeper Joao Leite (called in to the Copa de Oro team when Carlos Roberta was injured) is an ardent Baptist, and has the strange custom of presenting the rival team's 'keeper with a bible before each match. If it's an international game, he tries to make sure the bible is in the opponents' language.



ANSWERS

1. A pensity (a). 2. No. 3. Caution the player (b). Although when I was refereeing Southampton and Manchester United in a League match, my linesman gave Alan Ball offside. Alan did not agree with his decision and looked at him. I ran up to Alan and the with his decision and looked at him. I ran up to Alan and the linesman and spoke to him. When we went in at half-time the linesman confirmed that Alan said "Sorry for looking at you like that." 4. Take no action (b). 5. Drop the ball (b).

E-UPS...RESULTS...SCORER

Saturday, January 24

F.A. Cup

(Fourth Round)

BARNSLEY (1) 1 (Aylott)
ENFIELD (0) 1 (Burton)
24,521
Barnsley: New, Joyce, Chambers, Glavin, Banks,
McCarthy, Evans, Parker, Aylott, Lester, Downes.
Enfield: Jacobs, Wade, Tone, Jennings, Barratt, Howell (Holmes), Ashford, Bishop, Burton, Oliver, King.

CARLISLE (1) 1 (Coady)
BRISYOL CITY (0) 1 (Mabbutt)
10,057
Carlisle: Swinburn, Haigh, Coady, MacDonald, Houghton, Parker, Coughlin, Campbell, Bannon (Hamilton),
Beardsley, Staniforth.
Bristol City: Moller, Sweeney, Hay, Aitken, Rodgers,
Marshall, Tainton, Fitzpatrick, Mabbutt, Ritchie (Pritchard), Whitehead.

COVENTRY (2) 3 (Daly 2 (1 pen), Blair)
BIRMINGHAM (0) 2 (Worthington pen, Ains-Coventry: Sealey, Coop, Roberts, Blair, Dyson, Gilles-pie, Bodak (Thomas), Daly, Thompson, Ferguson, Hunt. Birmingham: Coton, Langan, Lees, Curbishley, Gal-laghar, Todd, Ainscow, Bertschin, Worthington, Gem-

EVERTON (1) 2 (Cohen og, Veradi)
LIVERPOOL (0) 1 (Case)
Everton: Hodge, Ratcliffe, Bailey, Wright, Lyons, Ross,
McMahon, Eastoe, Varadi, Hartford, O'Keefe.
Liverpool: Clemence, Neal, Cohen, Thompson, Kennedy R, Irwin, Dalglish (Case), Lee, Fairclough, McDermetr, Scure, Case, Case, Lee, Fairclough, McDermetr, Scure, Case, Case, Lee, Fairclough, McDer-

FULHAM (C) 1 (Davies) CHARL ON (1) 2 (Shaw, Hales) 17,050
Fulham: Peyton, Clement, Lock (Wilson), Beck, Brown,
Banton, Davies, O'Driscoll, Mahoney, Lewington,

Greenaway. Chariton: Johns, Gritt, Madden, Shaw, Berry, Tyde-man, Powell, Naylor, Hales, Walker (Hazell), Robinson.

HEDD BALL

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1 (Bailey) WBA (0) 0
Middlesbrough: Platt, Nattrass, Bailey, Johnston
Angus), Ashcroft, McAndrew, Cochrane, Proctor,
Shearer, Jankovic, Armstrong.
WBA: Godden, Bennett, Cowdrill, Moses, Wile, Robert-

son, Robson, Brown (Mills), Regis, Owen, Barnes.

NEWCASTLE (1) 2 (Clarke, Martin) NEWCASTLE (1) 2 (Clarke, Martin)
29,202
Newcastle: Carr, Carney, Johnson, Martin, Boam,
Halliday, Shinton, Trewick, Clarke, Wharton, Waddle.
Lutton: Findlay, Stephens, Donaghy, Grealish, West,
Price, Hill, Stein, Ingram, Aizlewood, Moss.

NOTTM. FOREST (1) 1 (Francis)
MANCHESTER UNITED (0) 0 34,110
Nottm. Ferest: Shilton, Anderson, Gray, McGovern,
Burns, Gunn, Ponte, Wallace, Francis, Walsh, Man. Utd: Bailey, Nicholl, Albiston, Wilkins, McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Birtles, Jordan, Macari, Thomas.

LEICESTER (1) 1 (Henderson)

EXETER (0) 1 (Pullar)

Leicester: Wallington, Williams, Scott, Byrne, May,

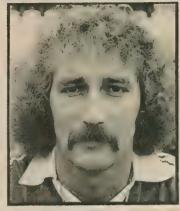
O'Neill, Melrose (Buchanan), Henderson, Young, Wil-Son, Smith.

Exeter: Bond, Rogers M, Hatch, Forbes, Roberts L, Roberts P, Prince, Rogers P, Kellow, Pullar, Delve.

MANCHESTER CITY (2) 6 (Reeves, Gow, Mackenzie, Bennett, Power, McDonald)
NORWICH (0) 38,919 Man. City: Corrigan, Henry, McDonald, Booth, Power, Caton, Boyer (Bennett), Gow, Mackenzie, Hutchison,

Norwich: Baker, Bond, Barham, Powell, McDowell, Watson, Mendham (Robson), Fashanu, Royle, Paddon,

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0
PETERBOROUGH (0) 1 (Cooke)
Notts County: Avramovic, Benjamin (Harkouk), O'Brien,
Kelly, Kilcline, Richards, McCulloch, Masson, Christie,



Gerry Gow (Man. City)

Peterborough: Waugh, McVay, Phillips, Gynn, Slack, Slough, Quow, Kellock, Cooke, Hodgson, Robson.

SHREWSBURY O IPSWICH 0 IPSWICH 0
Shrewsbury: Wardle, King, Leonard, Turner, Griffin,
Keay, Tong, Atkins, Bates, Biggins, Cross.
Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, Mills, Thijssen, Osman,
Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil (O'Callaghan),

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 3 (Moran 2, Williams) BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 1 (Williams) 23,597 Southampton: Wells, Golac, Holmes, Williams, Watson, Nicholl, Keegan, Channon, George, Moran, Baker. Bristol Rovers: Kite, Gillies, Cooper, Williams, Hughes, McCaffrey, Emmanuel, Jones, Mabbutt, Lee, Barrow-

TOTTENHAM (0) 2 (Brooke, Archibald) 37,432 HULL (0) 0 37,432 Tottenham: Daines, McAllister, Miller, Roberts, Yorath, Perryman, Ardiles (Brooke), Archibald, Galvin, Hoddle,

Hull: Norman, Hoolickin, McNeil, Richards, Booth, Roberts, Marwood, McClaren, Edwards, Norrie, Deacy.

WATFORD (1) 1 (Armstrong) WOLVES (0) 1 (Richards) 24,328
Watford: Sherwood, Rice, Harrison, Taylor, Sims,
Jackett, Callaghan (Ward), Blissett, Armstrong, Train,

Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Hollifield, Daniel, McAlle, Berry, Hibbitt, Atkinson (Parkin), Gray, Richards, Eves.

WREXHAM (1) 2 (Fox, McNeil)
WIMBLEDON (0) 1 (Denny)
12,267
Wrexham: Davies, Hill, Kenworthy, Jones, Cegielski, Arkwright, Fox, Sutton, Edwards, McNeil, Cartwright.
Wimbledon: Beasant, Jones, Armstrong, Galliers, Smith, Cunningham, Ketteridge, Hodges (Hubbick), Denny, Cork, Downes.



Kevin Mabbatt (Bristol City)

Second Division 36

CAMBRIDGE (0) 0 SHEFFIELD WED (2) 2 (Leman, Sterland) 9,231 Cembridge: Key, Donaldson, Murray, Smith, Fallon, Finney, Streete, Spriggs, Reilly (O'Neill), Taylor,

Sheff. Wed: Bolder, Blackhall, Williamson, Smith, Shirtliff, Sterland, Leman, Taylor, McCulloch, Pearson,

BOLTON (2) 3 (Gowling 2, Thomas)
DERBY (1) 1 (Wilson) 9,937
Botos: Peacock, Graham, McElhinney, Wilson, Jones,
Brennan, Nikolic, Thomas, Hoggan, Kidd, Gowling,
Derby: Jones, Emery, Buckley, Powell S, McFarland,
Osgood, Powell B, Hector, Biley, Wilson, Emson.

Third Division

BRENTFORD (3) 4 (Frost, Johnson 2, Shrubb) CHESTER (0) 0

MILLWALL (1) (Anderson)

GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (Bruce) CHESTERFIELD (0) 0 5,122

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 (Stanton) ROTHERHAM (0) 0

PLYMOUTH (2) 3 (Cooper 2, Kemp) OXFORD (0) 0 5.121

BLACKPOOL (0) 3 (Morris 2, Thompson)

SWINDON (1) 3 (Greenwood, Carter, Rowland) READING (0) 1 (Bowman) 8,100

Fourth Division

ALDERSHOT (0) 0 WIGAN (1) 1 (Quinn)	2,932
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (Allen) TORQUAY (0) 1 (Cooper)	3,256
DARLINGTON (1) 2 (Stalker, Waish) BURY (0) 1 (Whitehead)	1,914
DONCASTER (0) 1 (Nimmo) HARTLEPOOL (0) 2 (Hogan, Hampton)	6,814
HALIFAX (1) 2 (Allatt, Graham) STOCKPORT (0) 0	3,286
LINCOLN (1) 2 (Neale, Thompson) CREWE (0) 1 (Greenhoff)	4,925

MANSFIELD (5) 5 (Wood 2, Caldwell 2, McClel-PORT VALE (0) 0

ROCHDALE (2) 3 (Wann, Seal, Wellings)
TRANMERE (1) 1 (Kelly) 2,731

YORK (1) 1 (Craig)
HEREFORD (2) 2 (Showers, McGrellis) 1,924

Scottish Cup

(Third Round)

AIRDRIE (0) 0

RANGERS (2) 5 (Stevens, Redford, Bett, Johnstone 2) 16,054
Airdrie: Martin, Cairney, March, McCluskey
(McKeowin), Rodgers (Anderson), McCulloch, Walker,
Gordon, Clark, McGuire, Russell.
Rangers: McCloy, Jardine, Jackson, Stevens, Dawson,
Russell (Cooper), Bett, Redford, Johnston, Johnstone,

MacDonald. ARBROATH (1) 1 (Young) COWDENBEATH (0) 1 (Liddell)

Arbroath: Martin, Forsyth, Scrimgeour, Gavin, Young, Docherty, Harley, McKenzie, Hyslop, Shaw, Yule. Cowdenbeath: Allan, Rowland, Markie, Tierney, Stewart, Hunter, Ferguson, Steele, Liddell, Marshall, Forrest.

BERWICK (9) 0
CELTIC (1) 2 (Nicholas, Burns)
9,676
Berwick: McDonald, Moyes, Marshell, Muir, McCann,
McGlynn, Hamilton, Black, Tait (Brown), Romanes,
Davidson (McLeod). Cettic: Bonner, McGrain, McAdam, Aitken, Reid, Sullivan (McLeod), Weir, Burns, Provan, McGarvey,

BRECHIN (0) 1 (Paterson)
DUNDEE UNITED (2) 2 (Dodds, Kirkwood) 5,791
Brachin: Neilson, Watt, Keating, Henderson, Lover,
Campbell (R), Campbell (R), Paterson, Graham, Lorimer,

Dundes United: McAlpine, Holt, Kopel, Phillip, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Addison, Kirkwood, Sturrock, Dodds.

BUCKIE THISTLE (0) 1 (Duncan, pen)
STIRLING (1) 3 (Steele, McNeil, Calhoun) 3,480
Buckie: Wood, Cowie, Brett, Wilson, Forthes, Scott,
Hunter, Souter, Nicol, Duncan, Kennedy.
Stirliag: Arthur, Young, Steadman, Duffin, Kennedy (D),
Moffatt, McPhes, Kennedy (A), Steele, Skilling, Arm-

strong. FAST FIFE O

CLYDEBANK 0 East Fife: Gorman, Clarke, Duncan (I), Scott (G), Duncan (J), McLaren, Halley, Scott (J), Burt, Tait, Huskey.

Clydebank: Hill, Treanor, Fallon, McLaughlin, Evens,
Gervaise, McIntyre, Houston, Miller, McCabe, Harkins.

EAST STIRLING (1) 4 (Blair, McCraig 2, Grant) INVERNESS (0) 1 (Inglis) 669
East Stirling: Kelly, Gourlay, Blair, McCullay, Renwick, McRitchie, Grant, Robertson, Ashford, Sharp, McCraig, Inverness: Gray, Fraser, Black (B), Cumming, Bremner, Milroy, Black (A), Drews, Inglis, Guyan, Ironside.

FALKIRK (1) 1 (Hay)
DUNDEE (0) 0 4,486
Falkirk: Watson, Hoggan, Rose, Brown, Mackin, Hay,
Stevenson, Hird, Oliver, McRoberts, Kettings.
Dundee: Williams, McGeachie, Schaedler, Fraser,
Glennie, McLaren, Mackie, Ferguson, Sinclair,
Stephen, Geddes.

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"He's been a substitute for so long



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VEN more disappointing than defeat in the F.A. Cup Fourth Round at Forest was the way Manchester United played.

To be honest we were awful, especially in the first-half.

United had been desperate to do well, particularly Garry Birtles, making his first appearance back at his old club.

Garry was given a tremendous reception by the Forest fans. He was also welcomed by his former teammates and ex-boss Brian Clough.

Cloughie came into the dressing room before the kick-off to wish Garry well. A nice gesture I thought.
I don't really know what went

wrong for United on the day. Perhaps we made the mistake of allowing Forest the room in which to build their attacks and gave the dangerous Trevor Francis time to turn with the ball.

As you know, it was Trevor who settled the issue in the 15th minute with a goal he didn't know he'd scored!

Trevor went up with Gary Bailey on the post at a corner-kick and was as surprised as anyone when he saw the ball lying in the back of the net.

At half-time Dave Sexton warned us in no uncertain terms that if we didn't start playing, knocking the ball about, we wouldn't stand a chance of winning the game.

We rallied in the second-half after

that rollocking and put Forest under some considerable pressure, but our finishing let us down.

It wasn't an exceptional Forest performance. Brian Clough and Peter Taylor are obviously rebuilding and print the present of myling. ing and are in the process of making changes.

Injured

One youngster assured of a fine future at the City Ground is their winger-cum-midfielder Colin Walsh. He took over from John Robertson when he was injured, but has really come into his own since the departure of lan Bowyer.

I really felt sorry for Garry Birtles. He still lives in Nottingham and took defeat badly. A few minutes after the game Garry was changed and away home. He seemed too

embarrassed to face people.

Garry was used to long Cup runs with Forest and had hoped to continue making progress with United. But that result at Forest meant we have now fallen at the first or second hurdles in five Cup competitions over the past two seasons. Not a proud record is it?

So no Wembley for United this season. And although the Championship is now just a mathematical possibility there is still a lot to play

The only route to Europe next season is via the U.E.F.A. Cup and to qualify we must finish strongly. So League games are important.

No League match for United this weekend, though, because our scheduled opponents, Spurs, are involved in the Fifth Round.

As I write Dave Sexton is trying to arrange a friendly game for us in Saudi Arabia, so I won't even get the chance of seeing some of the ties on TV.

I've a sneaky feeling this could be fottenham's year for glory. Coven-



Trevor Francis (hidden) beats United 'keeper Gary Bailey to the ball to send Forest through to the F.A. Cup Fifth Round.

Only one way into Europe'

City's kids have shown up extremely well in the League Cup, but Spurs should be too good for them at White Hart Lane.

There's a lot of talent in the Coventry team, but they need more experience and perhaps the introduction of an older player to calm them down.

But in a season or so The Sky Blues could well be the side to watch . . . and beat.

Manchester City are also playing well at the moment and you've just got to fancy them at Peterborough.

Buying Tommy Hutchison, Gerry Gow and Bobby McDonald was a master-stroke by new manager John

Not only have they helped to bring out the best in the likes of Kevin Reeves, Paul Power and Steve Mackenzie, but they've all scored

vital goals.

With Andy Gray back in action
Wolves should feel confident of
taking care of Wrexham at
Molineux, but I'm going for a replay

Charlton are enjoying a tremendous run, especially away from home, but there's no way Ipswich will lose at Portman Road.

Kevin Keegan's Southampton will provide another tough test for

unlucky Everton. After beating Arsenal and Liverpool, they have the daunting prospect of facing a Saints side scoring goals galore.

Apparently Everton haven't won at The Dell since 1972. But this is a

vastly improved Everton team, a side that battles for 90 minutes as

they proved against Liverpool.
Impossible to predict the out-

come of this one.

Barnsley won't relish the thought of playing Middlesbrough at Ayresome. With the boy Dave Hodgson up front and Craig Johnston buz-zing in midfield I must take Boro to go through.

Boro's North-East rivals New-castle know all about winning the F.A. Cup, and should progress at the expense of little Exeter in the last 16 for the first time in 44 years.

Finally, Forest, United's con-querors, at home to Bristol City. Even when they're not playing well, Forest are never an easy team to beat. I can't see Bristol, who are struggling to stay in the Second Division, causing Peter Shilton and company many problems.

Volor Vouse

The talented Craig Johnston could help Middlesbrough to their first major honour

SIX weeks in football can spin out agonisingly to seem like an eternity. On the other hand, when things are going well, it passes far too soon.

As managers, Malcolm Allison, Brian Clough and Jock Stein have all seen careers started and

seen careers started finished in such a period. Allison, of course, with Crystal Palace, and Clough and Stein with Leeds United.

As a player, Asa Hartford has had the same experience after his

Dundee's hits and misses

whistle-stop stay with Notting-ham Forest following his £400,000 transfer from West Brom. He is now enjoying life with Everton. Dundee manager Donald Mac-kay has joined those ranks in realising what six weeks in foot

ball can mean, as fortunes dip and swerve uncontrollably

In December he proudly took his Dundee side into the League Cup Final arena to meet city rivals United at Dens Park. It was a period of glamour and flamboyance ... the spotlight was firmly on Dundee ... the bright lights beckoned.

been whipped 3-0 by United in the Cup Final and knocked out of the Scottish Cup by part-time Falkirk at Brockville. And their challenge for promotion was slipping alarm-ingly as Hibs and Raith Rovers led the field.

Mackay, in his first major man-agerial appointment, could be for-given for feeling slightly dazed and

"What we need now is hard work," he says. "The players must apply themselves to the tasks and challenges that lie ahead. There is nothing else for it.

"Of course it was disappointing."

power to get back into the Premier Division. Our priority is clear." Dundee's unpredictable form

Dundee's unpredictable form has seen them start the season in hardly dynamic fashion, raise their standards remarkably, beat Aberdeen in the Quarter Final of the League Cup, come back to earth with the Final defeat from United and then flop against Falkirk in the Scottish Cup.

The rest of the season is going to be a long, hard struggle for Dundee, but if hard work is anything to go by then do not count them out

go by then do not count them out





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Two strikers enjoying life at new clubs



HARD times are coming. That is the verdict of Chelsea's new striker Alan Mayes who signed from Swindon Town for £200,000 after turning down a £400,000 move to Stamford Bridge earlier in the season.

Frankly, I didn't think the time was right when Geoff Hurst came in for me the first time. My contract at Swindon was due to end in May. I thought that I would become a free agent and make my choice of clubs.

'I quickly became aware that this might well not be the case. Clubs are looking to trim their wage bills and there are going to be a lot of players in for a shock this summer. A great many will

'Don't get me wrong — I'm confident my ability and my record as a goalscorer would have got me a job. But fewer and fewer clubs will be prepared to pay big money, either in transfer fees or wages."

Opportunity

As far as the 27-year-old Mayes is concerned, it was a case of not missing an opportunity for the third time. At the end of last sea-Tottenham manager Keith Burkinshaw also put in a £400,000 bid. "Our manager then at the County Ground, Bobby Smith, turned it down.

I would have gone to Spurs like a shot. It is every player's ambition to show what he can do in the First Division and that certainly goes for me. At the time I got over it because we were going strongly in the promotion chase at the time.

But when we missed out for the second successive season, I was really despondent at the chance that had gone. If anything, it was that set-back in my career which clinched my decision to turn down Chelsea the first time . wanted the First Division so much.

The fact that Chelsea are challenging strongly for a return to the First Division was a key reason in signing. I want more than just going into the First and being part of a club with that status. I want to make an impact and score the goals that make me a force at that

"I waited a long time. I didn't make my debut at Watford until I was 21. I look back now and realise that this was a couple of years of my career that went to waste. Chelsea have players firmly estab-

lished in the side by that age." Alan's arrival at Chelsea also immediately produced a look back at what-might-have-been. "Earlier

in the season when Chelsea wanted me first time, Colin Lee and Clive Walker were scoring plenty of goals — it would have been the perfect time to join.

'Curious'

"Then it changed. They didn't score in four games immediately before I arrived; nor in the first couple that I played at Second Division level. In fact, my start was a curious affair because I had to be left out of Chelsea's side of the F.A. Cup tie at Southampton because I was Cup-tied.

"Next, I was left out of the League side because the manager wanted to keep the players together. He feels that a newcomer should get to know his new team-mates in an off-the-pitch atmosphere before taking a regular place. That was another disappointment and immediately provided me with a point to prove.

"But what is done is done; and, despite what I feel about my ability, the fact remains that I have been a Third Division player all my career. I have to prove myself to Cheisea and I have to prove that I can score goals in a Division where form is sharper and the pace quicker."

LAN Curtis has provided foot-A LAN Curtis has provided to ball quiz teams with a question that should crop up for years to come. Which player holds his club's record for a transfer fee received and fee paid?

The answer is Swansea City's 26-year-old Wales international striker, who produced £370,000 for the club when he left for Leeds United in May, 1979 and then returned at £175,000 December.

"In a sense, I never left the Vetch Field," Curtis says. "The first result I looked for on a Saturday evening was Swansea's. Every time I came across a former club-mate, I wanted to hear all the inside gossip. You can say that I'm very happy to be back!"

Failed

Curtis angrily rejects any charge that he failed to measure up to the demands of First Division football. 'My main problem at Leeds was injury. There was a ten month break from first team football after a torn knee ligament from a collision with Peter Shilton.

'When I got back into the side this season, it was plain that Allan Clarke, who had succeeded Jimmy Adamson as manager, did not want me. We had a good spell drawing against lpswich, then beating Manchester City and Everton when I scored the winner.

'That run came to an end when we lost 2-1 at Wolves and I was the only player dropped. There was no explanation, nothing. My first team future at Elland Road was

But that experience does not make him doubt his ability should Alan Curtis

insists

I'M NOT A

FAILURE

The Swans achieve promotion this season. "If anything, it has made me more determined to succeed.

"I don't think that I have anything to prove to anyone . . . but I must admit that it would be great to face Leeds.'

The attitude of Curtis was demonstrated within minutes of his return to Swansea's side. He was brought on as substitute against Watford three days after signing and demanded the ball when Swansea were awarded a penalty with the scoreline standing at a tense 0-0 and time running

"I had come on for Leighton James who was injured and he is our penalty taker. When we were awarded the kick, no one seemed too keen to take it - but I wanted it although I had taken just one penalty in my career before that moment. I scored without any trouble, though."

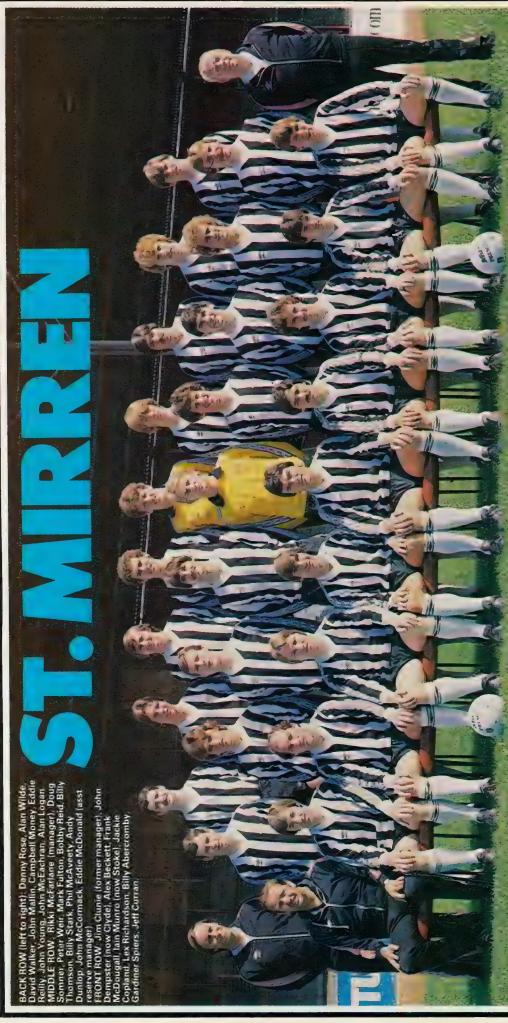
'Secured'

"It was just about my first kick in Second Division football," he reflects. "I played for The Swans when they were promoted from the Fourth and Third Division and then left after we secured the second successive promotion.

"I've now played in all four Divisions of the League in four consecutive seasons . . . and that may well be another one for the record books! What I hope most of all is that Robbie James, Jeremy Charles, Nigel Stevenson and Wyndham Evans will be able to say the same come the start of next season.

"I think we can do it. And that, above all, is why I'm glad to be home. Professional ambition and personal happiness will come together the moment we become a First Division club. You can sense the excitement everywhere, in the town as well as within the club."

Curtis started 1980 by being carried off against Nottingham Forest, endured pain and professional demotion before finishing the year by scoring three goals in his first four Swansea comeback matches. 'Now I aim to make 1981 the best year of my career. Success at Swansea means more to me now than it has ever done," he says emphatically.



40

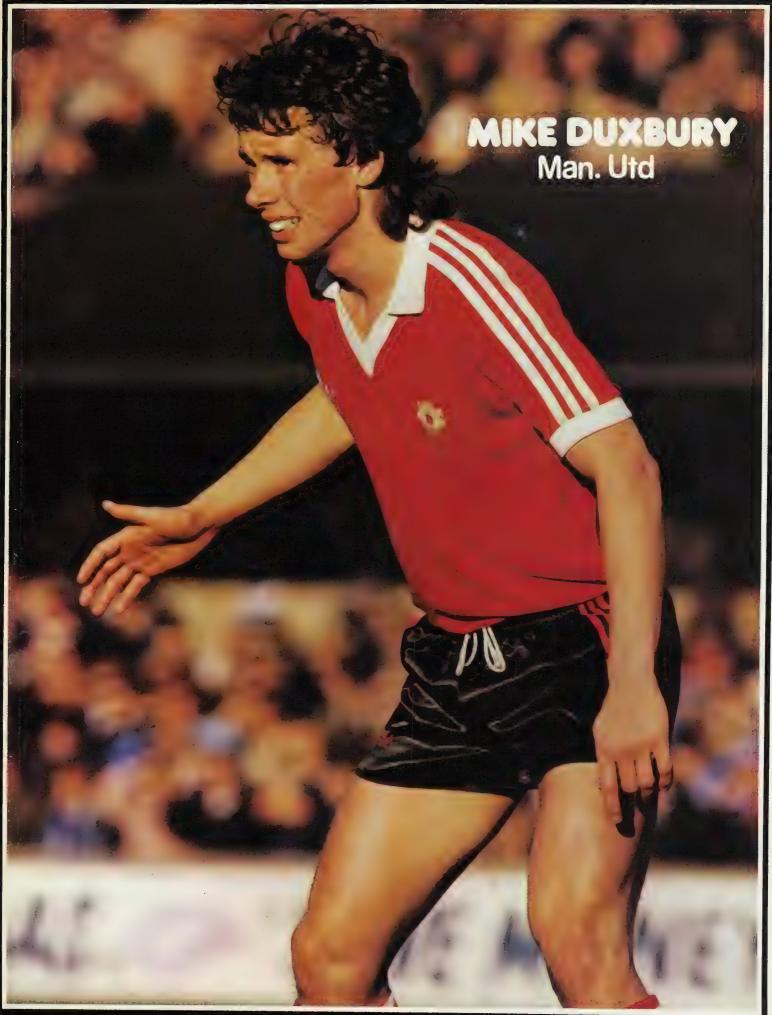
while admitting "if had nothing to do with the football results."

While the public were reeling under that shock admission came the news that Clunie it had apparently been axed because the wife of the vice chairman. Gordon Foulds — later to became chairman — didn't care too much for the odd four latter word that cropped up from the manager!

Thankfully, the dust is now settling on this saging argument. St. Mirren have appointed Fikki McFarlane as their new team boss and the have even installed a public relations man in McFarlane took the team through the venineliald and they went seven games with-

The sign of a good manager comes after a defeat," says McFarlane. "I enjoyed the praise when we were doing well, but knew ethe run would have to come to a halt." Wut defeats will never change my idea of how the game should be played. I like teams who entertain and players with flair." St. Mirren have refound that attacking sparkle of last season and mesmerising out. I stankle of last season and mesmerising out. I stankle of last season and mesmerising out. I should be season a season of the most of th

They rarely get the headlines, but their consistency is quite amazing.
They do agood job for this club week in, week out and are never singled out for individual praise. They are great professionals and a credit to the game.



SHOOT!

SPECIAL REPORT by Bill Day

he tean behind Everto

E VERY fighting ship needs as much talent on the lower decks as it does on the bridge if it is to be successful on the high seas.

The same principle applies to a football club. Fortunately, Everton are blessed with a "family" of backroom staff second to none in the Football League, all devoted to the cause of maintaining the high traditions established by the club's founding fathers who once formed the congregation of a Methodist Chapel at St. Domingo Vale and chose to mix prayer with their other pleasure, football.

That was back in 1878 when Queen Victoria was monarch and the horse was the best means of transport. Today the same fervent enthusiasm courses through every department of Goodison Park. Penetrate the padlocked gates of

Goodison in midweek and the visitor will find an industrious group of employees beavering away at white collar jobs and those requiring more muscle.

None are prouder of their occupations than Nora Crowley and Agnes McGill, who have made a living out of a job most housewives loathe - washing and ironing.

Satisfaction

Both fix trained eyes on the team when it emerges from the tunnel, allowing themselves a smile of satisfaction at the crispness and cleanliness of kit they have lovingly washed and ironed in midweek.

"Mick Lyons' kit worries me most," reveals Nora. "He gets more mud on him that the others."

The ladies in the Laundry Room are responsible for all the kit, from first team to the most junior side.

Nora and Agnes could be excused for demanding the best equipment in the land for their wash room, set deep in the bowels of the main stand. They decline offers of such luxury, preferring the same simple ironing board and

electric iron used by most mothers If their washing machine is larger than average, it is a necessary extravagance to cope with the volume of washing they handle.

The washer-women thrive on unexpected visits from the game's biggest stars. Tommy Docherty always made a point of having a cup of tea amongst the linen with Nora and Agnes whenever he led Manchester United to Goodison.

Terry Neill, Alan Ball, Malcolm Macdonald, Duncan McKenzie, Terry Darracott and Gordon West

are other favourites. Copies of SHOOT's popular colour pin-ups adorn the walls,





Dick sees only 25 minutes of every home game, retiring from the stands mid-way through the first half to prepare tea and orange cordial drinks for the players at half-time.

'They love my orange," beams Dick

He works in a privileged sanctuary, mixing freely with managers and players alike. Dick has been a popular member of Goodison's backroom staff in the 11 years he has been responsible for the dressing rooms.

His study of players is fascinating. Mike Lyons changes character 15 minutes before kick-off, reveals Dick.

'Mike is generally quiet, but just

Dressing Room attendant Dick Beatham (left) and physio Jim McGregor (below) strive hard to maintain Everton's exceptionally high standards.



including Howard Kendall, "my favourite past player," admits Nora, whose hands show no signs of wash-day red despite 13 years of scrubbing and cleaning.

She permits herself one criticism. "The shirts are not the

quality they were ten years ago".

If the laundry room is necessarily untidy, the **Dressing Rooms** are clinically spotless. They say at Goodison that a player could eat a hearty fried breakfast off tiled floors polished by Dick Beatham.

Dick fights dust and dirt with as much enthusiasm as Asa Hartford drives Everton's midfield. Visitors with muddy soles tread Dick's floors in peril of their lives

Not that he is a tyrant; simply that if the plunge baths, showers, private baths and general changing area of both dressing rooms are not up to standard, Dick gets a rocket.

before a game he starts bawling. Come on lads, we're going to beat this shower' he'll say. He really gets the dressing room buzzing to lift the players. But I've seen him cry after matches.

The two most relaxed players I've ever seen in a dressing room before a game are Martin Dobson and Bob Latchford. The room would be electric and they'd show

no sign of anxiety."
Brian Clough is his favourite manager. "A straight man Brian," says Dick, who also counts Bob Paisley and Joe Fagan, of deadly rivals Liverpool, as close

match-day friends.
Arsenal are the most popular visitors to the Goodison dressing rooms. "They clean-up their dressing room for me. I don't know who does it, but if I venture into their room when they've gone home, I'll always find a pile of mud swept neatly under a table."

The theory at Everton is that George Hogan, the club's "Man Friday," was Don Howe's N.C.O. in their service days and the Arsenal second in command is still setting

his peer an example in cleanliness. Smoking is frowned on in the dressing rooms, but Dick recalls vividly an Everton player who climbed in the shower regularly with a lighted cigarette. "Mind you, if Andy King had seen him he'd have killed him. Andy hated smoking, making his feelings obvious on occasions.

Dick lowers his voice a decibel or two to speak in a hushed whisper of the "Vision", Alex Young.

'Presence'

"He was walking to the ground for a derby game against Liverpool once, and as he entered Cross Street, fans of both clubs became aware of his presence. They parted to form an avenue, fans with red scarves on one side, blue on the other, and the 'Vision' walked magnificently between them." Everton's **Physiotherapy**

Room would do credit to the television programme 'General Hospital'. Superbly equipped, many a player has recovered miraculously from injury after skilful treatment from Jim McGregor, Everton's physio, who joined the club from Oldham.

The fans would be shocked if they discovered how many players need treating after a game, reveals George Hogan. "Jim often works a seven-day week to get the players fit. This was where Geoff Nulty came after sustaining an injury which ended his career.

There is no more popular incumbent of the **Referees Room** than Pat Partridge. The club supplies armchairs and a colour television, most refs preferring to spend their time quietly in the room than with the players.

"Clive Thomas is always good for a bit of a laugh," says George. "We'll rib him, and he'll have a go back." Memories of a disallowed Everton goal by Clive in a Semi-Final with Liverpool in 1977, leaving them to face a replay and defeat, are not forgotten, but magnanimously forgiven.

Chunks of cement missing from the wall of the **Warm-up Room** testify to the vigour of Everton's pre-match routine. Most players don training shoes to spend ten minutes flexing their muscles with a ball in the green carpeted room.

"John Bailey spends hours in here," explains George Hogan. "He's very professional and ambitious enough to want to play

The special Sponsors Lounge is an innovation responsible for boosting Everton's revenue. Various companies in the North-West take advantage of the club's invitation to spend an afternoon as V.I.P. guests in exchange for monetary support of the club.

The sponsor companies are invited to elect a "Man of the Match" and present their choice with a hamper of food, magnum of champagne or crate of whisky after the game. John Gidman, Billy Wright, John Bailey, Eamonn O'Keefe and Steve McMahon are among the winners this season.

Fans could be forgiven for believing that Liverpool's players made a hurried exit after their F.A. Cup defeat by Everton at Goodison in January. Perhaps they should know then that players of both Liverpool teams mixed freely and happily after the encounter, big match tension subsiding amidst laughter and general merriment.

Terry McDermott and Phil Neal are always popular visitors to Everton's Players' Lounge. Most popular visitors are Manchester City, a team rich in personality and

Spirits are banned, the players preferring lager and light ale if they are not on soft drinks.

Duncan McKenzie held court often in this room with his special brand of humour in his Everton days, and Terry Darracott, a team-mate of McKenzie's before leaving for Wrexham, is said to be of Mike Yarwood proportions in his rendering of a Dean Martin take-off.

The Reception Area is the

Goodison without planting a kiss on Chris' cheek. "He's my favourite," reveals Chris, blushing for England." gently. Don't tell Everton's supporters, but she also has a soft spot for Liverpool's David Johnson, "he always comes to see me." Terry Darracott, John Hurst, Howard Kendall and Lawrie McMenemy are all members of the Chris Welsh Fan Club. Everton's desire to win their first

major trophy for 11 years is reflected in the design of their trophy cabinet, a "jewel box" behind plate glass containing silver worth thousands. The centre-piece just happens to be roughly the

is taking time to settle, yet he casts clear blue eyes across the historic ground with obvious pride

My father, Edward, was groundsman here before me for 50 years, working with none of the

modern machinery I've got."
He strives to produce soft pitches, "the players like that, though Bobby Collins used to thrive on the heavier ones."

Alan Storey hates to see his billiard-table pitch roughed-up by players warming-up before kick-off. "Liverpool don't like it either. They've got the answer, they don't give visiting clubs a practise ball."

Eusebio.

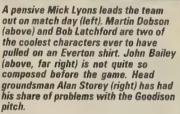
'Bestie never played well here, and nor did Stan Matthews," says

Alan. Next time Peter Shilton travels to Everton he might be wise to make friends with Alan Storey. The groundsman does not take kindly to the England goalkeeper's habit of marking the centre of the penalty area he is defending

"Every time I watch him he scrapes the turf away," grins Alan.

"I watched Peter very carefully in a televised game from the County Ground, Nottingham Forest at the start of the season. "I might be wrong, but I don't





same dimensions as that of the European Cup, a trophy Everton would love to win to set-off all the other silverware, some dating back

Wilfred Toman's cap gathers dust in one section, a prized possession recording the moment in 1898 when he signed from Burnley for £400. Nineteen years later he was killed in action.

The oppulence of the Trophy Room, which doubles as a directors lounge, is in stark contrast to Eton Street below, a narrow thoroughfare of terrace houses where "matchstalk" men fight to avoid the city's growing dole aueue.

A frothing half of chilled lager is set-up most lunch-times in the luxurious 300 Club lounge for Alan Storey, Everton's head groundsman, who has looked after the pitch for 33 years.

None of the staff behind the scenes are more passionately committed to their jobs than Alan, a distinguished grey haired man with a ruddy complexion ripened by hot summers and icy winters in this windswept North-West

It disturbs him that Everton's £60,000 undersoil heating system







He still shudders when recalling the damage one of Everton's favourites of the past inflicted on the Goodison pitch. "Norman Greenhalgh specialised in the slide tackle over yards and yards," grins Alan.

He cherishes the memory of Bobby Collins and Ray Wilson, post-War Everton heroes, and still beams broadly when recalling Eusebio's performances at Goodison for Portugal in the 1966 World Cup. "He liked my pitch did think he damaged the turf. Could it be his groundsman has had a go

'But what a goalkeeper. Just like a brick wall - and reflexes like a

cat's.
"I'd give him a roasting if he were
a lesser goalkeeper."
That's the attitude of Everton's

backroom staff. Thoughtful, caring, determined to maintain the traditions fostered over generations by one of the world's best run football clubs.



responsibility of Chris Welsh. Chris receives all visitors to Goodison with a smile to melt the frostiest characters amongst them. She also finds time to run the

switchboard, greeting callers with the same warmth she generates at the front counter. Telephone calls come in from all over the world, and the mail dumped in Goodison's foyer every morning would give Father Christmas a heart-attack.

Mike Channon, Southampton's former England striker, never visits

VERSATILE and popular Dundee midfield player Jim Shirra has left Dens Park and departed for the warmer climes of Australia. He is hoping to further his football career with South Melbourne F.C.

Jim has always had a secret ambition to sample competitive soccer Down-Under.

"Make no mistake," he said, "I am indeed very sorry to leave all of my Scottish footballing friends, but I have really wanted to try

daughter, Shirra should do well in Australia. Highly rated, he was only allowed to leave Dens Park on condition that should he return to Scotland, Dundee will have first option on his services.

Thirty years of age, Jim commenced his senior career in 1967 when he left Gairdoch Juveniles to sign for his home-town club Falkirk. It was whilst playing with them that he was selected to play for Scotland against Italy in a "B" international. In October, 1976, he was

transferred to Aberdeen for a £25,000 fee.

The following year, he left

Pittodrie to join Dundee. His move was part of a transfer deal which took the highly successful Gordon Strachan to Aberdeen with a cash adjustment.

Shirra fitted in well at Dens Park, winning two medals with the Dark Blues. The first was when **Dundee won the First Division** Championship title in 1979, and the other earlier this season when beaten in the League Cup Final by near neighbours Dundee United.

"Losing to Dundee United was a big disappointment, because I wanted to leave Dens Park on a high note," he said. "I have enjoyed my time with

ra goes Down U

RIGHT: Gordon Strachan, who went to Aberdeen in exchange for Shirra.

Australian football for quite some time now

'I am hoping to have a very successful playing career with South Melbourne. I understand they are a progressive and go-ahead club, and am looking forward to being part of their set-up.

Married with a two-year-old



the club, and it is nice to know that if I ever decide to come back to Scotland, Dundee are prepared to give me another chance. I am going to miss all my team-mates, but I think this move is the right one.

Before leaving, he was given a grand send-off by his fellow-players, who wished him every success in his new venture, and presented him with a cheque.

Also off to Australia is Forfar Athletic defender Jim Cameron. Given a free transfer as a reward for his valuable service to the Angus club, Jim formerly played with Dundee United.



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AN Bowyer, Sunderland's £250,000 signing from Nottingham Forest, sees his move to Wearside as an outsize challenge. And at the age of 29, he is more than ready to meet it.

The transfer from the European Champions to a team fighting to steer clear of the relegation zone doesn't bother Bowyer, who has wasted no time in sizing up the task facing his new club

He says: "I believe I can make a worthwhile contribution here at Roker There is no doubt that Sunderland have enormous potential, but I am the first to realise that this potential has to be turned into potential has to be turned into solid achievement.

solid achievement.
"I'm not a Dave Mackay type of player, likely to make a dramatic impact. My way is quieter — I'm used to an ordered, disciplined sort of football."

It was back in October, 1973,

that the then Forest manager Dave Mackay bought Bowyer from Orient for a bargain price of £40,000

Tribute

Indeed, when Bowyer departed to the North-East, he was paid a glowing tribute by Clough, who said "Ian Bowyer has been the best professional at Forest, and I told him so earlier this season in front of all the players. While he was with us he never caused us one second of trouble

"He has left us to help Sunder-land, and with Frank Clark there they don't need me to tell them his pedigree Having done a superb job for Nottingham Forest he has gone to tackle a fresh one at Roker Park. I'm sorry to see him go, but it was a transfer that suited everybody

As valuable as Bowyer has been to Forest, Ian himself was not averse to his transfer to the North-East, and he says: "At first, I had mixed feelings about the deal, especially as there would have been a testimonial for me before too long

"But I reckoned by then I could just be a reserve — and who wants to know when you are not in the

CLOUGH

first team?"
For Nottingham Forest, the fee they received for Bowyer was obviously attractive, being as it was six times more than Mackay had paid out for him in the early 70's. And Sunderland boss Ken

manager Keit Kulghter

"Bowyer's very presence puts almost half the team under pressure," says Knighton. "And that's the way I like it. About five players will be wondering if lan is going to get their shirt."

Knighton is also satisfied that the Wearsiders will reap the benefit of having the seasoned midfield man

"Competition is something everybody should relish. And lan Bowyer is a real breakthrough in

Bowyer is a real breakthrough in that respect.
"In his first training session with us he impressed me, and the players. They showed great respect for him, and he has good habits which you would expect from someone who has been with Forest."

Frank Clark, Sunderland's assistant manager, believes that Bowyer will become an even bigger

yer will become an even bigger favourite at Roker Park than he was at Forest.

"Ian has often been underrated by the fans, but not in the dressing room. He has always been a play-ers' player Now he has the chance to become a personality in the

area."

Bowyer made his debut in the big-time at an early age. He was only 17 when he turned out for Manchester City, then collected a European Cup-Winners' Cup medal

in 1969-70 during his spell at Maine Road before being transferred to Orient in June, 1971 for £25,000. And because of the early start to his career as a teenager, Bowyer is hoping that North-East supporters will not take the view that he is an over-age veteran.

"In my first few days at Roker there was plenty of talk in the North-East about the amount of experience I've got. That's alright as long as the fans don't make me out to be a grandad.

Situation

"A lot of people seem to think that my situation is similar to that of Dave Mackay when he left Tottenham for Derby. But that's not true — Mackay was nearly at the end of his career. I'm not.

"I've got four or five years left — this is not a short-term transfer. Ken Knighton is an ambitious man-

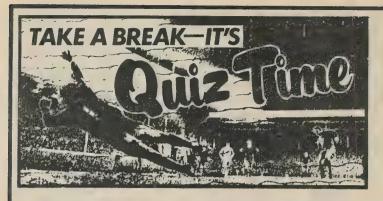
Ken Knighton is an ambitious manager, and I would like to think that I can win things with him to go with the medals I won at Forest."

With the know-how he gained with Forest, Bowyer has all the qualifications to assist a Sunderland side which has lacked drive in midfield, and although he has made his name in this department. his versatility was a great asset to Brian Clough's team.

Included in Bowyer's versatility

Included in Bowyer's versatility is the ability to grab goals, and he has scored 80 in a career of over 300 games — but manager Knighton is also anticipating that Ian will help Sunderland to concede less "Ian will give us the extra steel that we need, and his all-round knowledge of the game will rub off on our defence, as well as the midfield," predicts Knighton.

And Bowyer says. This move will prove to be the right one for me. I'm not here just for a quick stop on the way to retirement — I'm here to give all the assistance I can to a young team in a town where the people are obsessed with footbali."



Rearrange the jumbled letters and find the nicknames of some of Britain's League clubs and their names.

- **ISSTAN (UMNHSOOPTAT)**
- 1. ISSTAN (UMNHSOUPTAT)
 2. HTEMMSHARE (TWESMHA)
 3. ETHRUSQEAK (LGNDOARNTI)
 4. YKSUBLSE (VYCORENT)
 5. ETHGSJA (TKCPRIAHESLTTH)
 6. SSRDEIP (EESQNUKPRA)
 7. ETHOSINR (OEPSTCNHRU)

- 8. RRMYELLSRMEI (HHMOTRRAE)
- 9. HETEEWVRRSEO (BNOAILVSRREO)
- 10. HTERRRSWOIA (EENMRUUSISTOH)

The Fourth Round of the F.A. Cup was played recently. Can you answer the following questions about the games?

- Did Paul, Peter or Phil Burton score the equaliser in Enfield's tremendous 1-1 draw against Third Division Barnsley at Oakwell?
- 2. Can you name the former England striker who was carried off with a bad knee injury during Manchester City's 6-0 win against Norwich City at Carrow Road?
- 3. Third Division Exeter City grabbed a creditable 2-1, 3-1, or 3-2 victory over First Division Leicester City at St James' Park?
- 4. Wimbledon were knocked out by which Second Division club?

the action photograph, Study taken during a Spurs v. Sunder-land First Division game on Sep-

tember 20th, and see if you can answer the following questions about the match.

- 1. Can you identify the Sunderland player in the dark strip?
- 2. And the Tottenham star tackling
- 3. Was the game played at White Hart Lane or Roker Park?
- 4. Did the match finish 0-0, 1-1 or

HIESBRIIMEG BANCOSRAEPMT CRUOBHGLENP KPOCKMKROCN GYROAEINURT DØLRKHLO IU SATSSAPSWIS TANAHNUEED NSOPTLASKSN Y M N O R M E L A Y O O
U E W I L C A A E L S B
B R E O O F F L F N A M

ANSWERS:

(Albion Rovers). 10. The Warriors (Stenhousemuir).

(Stenhousemuir).

PiCTURE PUZZLE. 1. Stan Cummins. 2.

Jottenham. 4. 0-0.

F.A. CUP. 1. Peter. 2. Phil. Boyer of Manchester City. 3. 1-1. 4. Wrexhem. TRACE-A-TEAM. Ferguson, Parkes, TRACE-A-TEAM. Ferguson, Parkes, Pike, Martin, Bords, Brobking, Peter. Phil. Boyer of the property of Pearson, Cross.



The names of 12 West Ham players are spelt out in this frame in straight lines, either horizontally, vertically or diagonally and forwards or backwards. How many can you

(Southampton). 2. The Hammers (West Ham). 3. The Ouskers (Darlington). 4. Sky Blues (Coventry). 5. The Jags (Pert) tick Thirstel. 6. Spiders (Gueen's Park). 7. The Irons (Scunthorpe). 8. Merry Mill. 7. The Irons (Scunthorpe). 8. Meer Morets (Rotherham). 9. The Wee Rovers TOWBLED MICKNAMES.

ON THE BALL

ACROSS:— (3) Robin. (4) Rays. (6) Eves. (11) Unite. (13) Govern. (14) Spurs. (15) Goble. (17) Smith. (18) Leeway. (19) Scrub. (20) Nine. (22) Owen. (23) Wells. DOWN:— (1) Ross. (2) Pike. (4) Robertson. (5) Young. (7) Vie. (8) Stapleton. (9) Gilbert. (10) Tommy. (12) Groan. (16) Elbow. (19) Son. (21) Eyed. (22) Only.

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MOLLER

REMEMBER Munich ... that's my answer to the many people who seem to reckon a place in the Sixth Round of the FA Cup is already secure for us.

In theory we should have a comfortable ride against Bristol City at the City Ground, but with Bobby Houghton and Jan Moller in the opposition camp we know it will

be no formality.

We must have been the hottest favourites of all time when we faced Malmö in the 1979 European Cup Final. The Swedish parttimers had performed miracles to reach that stage of the competition and according to the majority of soccer pundits they had no chance of holding us.

It's history now that we won the Cup — thanks to Trevor Francis' famous header — but although I had one of the easiest games of my career, finding a chink in Malmö's defensive armour was a problem which at one stage we

thought we might not solve.

The ability of Houghton to organise defences and Moller's knack of keeping clean sheets were the major causes of our frustration.

And it's certainly no coincidence that since they joined forces at Ashton Gate, Bristol City have stopped leaking goals — and given themselves a chance of avoiding a second consecutive relegation.

I haven't forgotten, either, how Moller performed heroics to earn Sweden a goalless draw when England met them in Stockholm

two years ago.

He's settled in quickly at City and although the loss of Gerry Gow to Manchester City and Tom Ritchie to Sunderland has not helped City's cause, we would be foolish to underestimate them.

Exactly what influence our trip to Tokyo for the World Club Championship this week will have on us won't be known until Saturday afternoon. But I'll be surprised if it affects our sharpness because we've had plenty of experience of mid-week trips to foreign parts either for internationals or Euro-

pean Cup ties in recent years. We'll be ready for City but if anyone thinks breaking through their defence will be an easy matter they should cast their minds back to Munich.

Trevor Francis heads Nottingham Forest's winning goal in the 1979 European Cup Final against Malmo.

they had I think Pat would have received even greater acclaim.

But he's had a fantastic career with both Tottenham, who have always regretted the day they sold him, and Arsenal. He's won many of the game's honours and at the same time built up an enormous reputation.

Watching Pat in action, his basic game is very sound but he does produce the unorthodox that is not to be recommended unless you have a special talent.

Take his famous one-handed saves, for example. In all honesty, I don't think he means to catch balls that way but if he finds that he's slightly misjudged a situation he has that as his safety valve.

There are other things that he does that are not in the textbook you lose count of the number of saves he makes with his legs and knees - but that's his inimitable

Like all goalkeepers, he's thick-skinned, too. We are there to be shot at — literally — and we really do have to take the rough with the smooth.

We get credit when we make good saves and keep clean sheets but take the brunt of it when things go wrong. That's life . . . but for Pat, myself and the rest of us, long may it continue.

arry on Je

ONE of the biggest boosts I've had this season is to see Pat Jennings playing as well as ever. We'll be at opposite ends of the field Saturday week (February 21st) when Arsenal visit us and despite being in his mid-30's Pat is far from the end of his playing

days.
For someone like myself, who is

hoping to carry on in the game as long as possible, it gives me a great tonic to see Pat continually held in such high esteem.

There is no doubt that he deserves all the accolades that come his way. He's been a little bit unfortunate in a way that Northern Ireland have not really been a power in world football ...

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Lawrie McMenemy's A cloak and dagger success in bringing Kevin Keegan to Southampton, it was obvious that all eyes would be on them this season for the England captain's return to League soccer.

But while Keegan has so far suffered from a terrible run of injuries and misfortune, the South Coast spotlight has turned from him to a resh-faced and previously unheard of young striker by the name of Steve Moran. A 5' 71/2" bundle of energy who has created quite a stir at The Dell.

Seventeen goals in his first 19 games for the club since making his full debut in mid-October have already earned Steve more back page headlines than he'd probably ever dreamed of — and sparked the club's revival after their fortunes had begun to flag quite

alarmingly.

And when you consider he's performing in a side which boasts some of the best-known names in the game — besides Keegan there's Mike Channon, Charlie George and Dave Watson for star-- enough you might think to overawe even the most confident of youngsters — his achievements so far look that much greater.

It comes as no surprise therefore, that manager McMenemy is absolutely delighted with the lad's

outstanding progress.

"I've been watching Steve since he was 11-years-old, and he hasn't changed," declares the big man. "He has produced this terrific appetite for scoring in every grade of football he's played in.

'Enthusiasm'

"He's a lad with a natural enthusiasm which is a delight to work with and to watch."

In fact, Lawrie gave Moran his first taste of League action just over a year ago, when he came on as substitute in the home game against Manchester City. Saints won 4-1 that day, and yes, as you might expect, Steve notched one of the goals with what was virtually his first kick of the game.

An interesting point to note there was that Mike Channon also scored in that game, his 161st League goal for the club — setting a new club record.

The way Moran has started, it looks as if he's already got his sights set on claiming that record for himself.

McMenemy certainly believes is youngster can go from

strength to strength.

"In his first 19 games for us, Steve scored 17 times. That is quality finishing by anybody's standards. I am sure he can keep up that scoring record, and then the football world will be at his

"It's too early yet to compare him with any other goalscorer, past or present. But he has everything needed to take him right to the very top — pace, sharpness and, above all, he delights in

Steve is one of soccer's growing band of intellectuals. He has six O-levels, and gained A-levels in maths and geography. He turned down two university places, where he was going to study architec-





KEVIN Reeves is determined to win back his England place now that he's rediscovered his scoring touch in John Bond's Manchester City team.

Bond was appalled by what he saw when he first arrived at Maine Road, saying: "Kevin Reeves has gone backwards since I sold him from Norwich.

'If I can't make him into a better player, I'll quit now and they can

find another manager.'
The effect was was almost immediate. Says Reeves: "I knew I hadn't been doing that well but I didn't think I'd gone backwards. I suppose you need someone else to come along and tell you that.

John Bond shocked me with that statement, but it was probably what I needed. Really, though, he hasn't done that much to alter my game. What he has done is make changes to the system.

'Forwards'

"For instance, under Malcolm Allison, the plan was for the fullbacks and the defenders in general to run with the ball and then lay it through to the forwards when they were 15 yards away.

"Now the idea is to get the ball to us front men quicker. That's

obviously a great help."
Reeves also found himself playing out of position under Allison.
"With only two of us up front, it was tough work and I often had to drift out wide. There was no one

else to give width." Now, of course, City have Tommy Hutchison doing that job. At £49,000, he's proved one of the greatest bargains ever.

'It's smashing to have a player like Tommy running wide and putting in those accurate crosses. He's made a difference to the side, and

so have the other new signings Phil Boyer, Bobby McDonald and Gerry Gow.

The overall effect has been to turn City from a side who had become everyone else's soft touch to a team that can frighten even the toughest rivals.

"We feel now that we can give anyone a game. We've got the confidence from winning but most important, we always look like getting goals now. We're geared

that way.
"Under Malcolm, I couldn't see how we were going to score. But now, I always fancy us to knock one or two in, and when you're doing that you've got to have a chance against any team."

Bond has completely trans-

formed City since taking over, while Allison has since left yet another club after failing to get results at Crystal Palace. Yet strangely, Reeves doesn't think they're that different as coaches.

They're similar in many ways and they've both got some very good ideas on the game.

'Some of Malcolm's ideas are brilliant but unfortunately, a lot of them can't be carried out in prac-

tice.
"He goes so deeply into the game that often he merely confused the players. They couldn't understand what he was going on about.'

Most players, though, felt that Big Mal's ideas were taking them straight into the Second Division. Joe Corrigan openly criticised the manager's policies and Reeves says: "He was only saying what most of us thought. Malcolm's policies weren't going to bring us success.

"We were all sad when he left, but the way things have turned out, we're all very pleased."

A tremendous League run under Bond has lifted City clear of the relegation zone and they suddenly found some life in the two Cup competitions as well.

"We don't think about relega-tion anymore. I know we could always go on another bad run but I couldn't see us suddenly collaps-

ing like that.
"I certainly can't see us dropping many points at home, the way we are playing."

Reeves' big personal aim now is to win back his England place. He's won two international caps so far

but was discarded soon after joining City. I believe Ron Greenwood came

to watch me earlier in the season and wasn't very impressed. I don't blame him.

'But I'm playing a lot better now and I'm beginning to expect the goals to go in again. I know there are a lot of young strikers coming through who are worth a try, but I feel I could get back into the team. That would complete my season.

NEXT WEEK...

Will he be the Players' Player of the Year?



We plot the amazing decline of Crystal Palace.

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TONY KELLOW

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All this and much more in next week's SHOOT — the number one in football!

